

JOHN BULL

Vol. XVI. No. 408.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1914.

ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

A 025034

For meaning of
this No. see
page 34.



*The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull*

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

**SEE
PAGE
25**

Try this famous Skin Remedy FREE



Antexema is an extraordinary remedy. It succeeds when doctors, hospitals, and ointments utterly fail. The cures worked by Antexema are astounding. In practically every town and village in the Kingdom you find enthusiastic admirers of Antexema, whose enthusiasm is due to its having completely cured them, after they despaired of temporary relief even. People whose lives were one long, martyrdom owing to eczema, others whose faces were disfigured by a rash, or ugly spots, victims of bad legs, tortured day and night by their affliction, have been cured by Antexema, the wonder-worker. To-day, not a sign of skin illness remains to worry or humiliate.

The amazing thing about Antexema is the immediate relief it gives. One minute you are tortured beyond endurance, and then you apply Antexema. Instantly the inflamed spot is cooled and soothed, the horrible, stinging itching

stops, and in a short time your skin is thoroughly well, and you are wondering how it all happened, and why you did not use Antexema before. There is nothing else in the world like Antexema.

Antexema is a beautiful, non-poisonous healing cream, prepared in our own laboratory from the original prescription of the well-known physician who discovered this marvellous remedy. Antexema cures bad legs, eczema, rashes, pimples, blotches, bad hands, and every other skin illness of infants and adults. However long your suffering has lasted, Antexema cannot fail to cure you. The first application starts you on the road to perfect skin health.

Do your duty to your skin and get Antexema to-day. Supplied by all chemists and stores everywhere. Also at Boots Cash Chemists, Army and Navy, and Squire's Stores, Harrods, Selfridge's, Whiteley's, Park's, and others. Drug Companies, Timothy White's, and Lewis and Bannister, at 12, 14, and 16, of, per bottle, or direct, post free, 1/6, and 2/6, from Antexema, Castle Laboratory, London, N.W. Also in India, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, and Europe.

Sign this Form

To Antexema, Castle Laboratory, London, N.W.—Please send Booklet, "Skin Troubles," for which I enclose three penny stamps, also Free Trial of Antexema and Antexema Soap, the famous skin soap.

NAME

JOHN BULL, 28/3/14.

ADDRESS

FIRST READ THIS.

If you predict the "Home" Team will win put in ink a X in the Home Column; if you predict the "Away" Team will win put a X in the Away Column. For Draws put a X in the Draw Column.

John Bull ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played Saturday, April 4th.

HOME.	AWAY.	DRAW.	HOME TEAM.	AWAY TEAM.
			Scotland v.	England
			Blackburn R. v.	Bolton W.
			Sunderland v.	Sheffield W.
			Derby C. v.	Manchester U.
			Tottenham H. v.	Liverpool
			Everton v.	W. Bromwich A.
			Manchester C. v.	Oldham A.
			Sheffield U. v.	Barnley
			Huddersfield T. v.	Stockport C.
			Barnsley v.	Notts C.
			Blackpool v.	Clapton O.
			Bury v.	Bradford
			Fulham v.	Wolverhampton W.
			Lincoln C. v.	Glossop
			Notts F. v.	Leeds C.
			Woolwich A. v.	Bristol C.
			Bristol R. v.	Brighton & H.
			Merthyr T. v.	Southend
			West Ham U. v.	Northampton
			Queen's P.R. v.	Exeter C.

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Sign

Address

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Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

READ RULES CAREFULLY.

NOTE METHOD OF MARKING COUPON

To safeguard the interests of our competitors we have adopted the following new rule for marking the Entrance Form:—If you predict the Home Team will win, put a X in the Home Column; if you predict the Away Team to win, put a X in the Away Column. For a Draw put a X in the Draw Column.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form and address it to "John Bull," 28, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2, mark envelope in top left-hand corner, Football Contest, No. 17, so as to reach us not later than Friday, April 3rd.

3. The sum of £5,500 will be paid to the Competitor whose Entrance Form contains the correct results, as published in the *Sporting Chronicle*, the matches given played to a finish on April 4th. Should it happen that no Entrance Form be received giving the whole of the correct results, a cash prize of £500 will be paid to the Competitor whose results show one error only. In the unlikely event of neither the £1,500 nor £500 being won, we shall in any event pay the sum of £150 to the Competitor sending in the most correct forecasts, whatever the number of errors in the past best, and £25 to the sender of the most correct forecast on a mauve coupon taken from *John Bull*. If the sender of a mauve coupon should win or share the £5,500, or the £500, the £150, or the £25, the *John Bull* prize will be awarded to the sender of the next best forecast sent on a mauve coupon. In the event of the £5,500 prizes being won, the £150 prize and £50 will, of course, not be paid. The £25 mauve coupon prize will be paid in any event.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the non-delivery of any effort. No correspondence will be entered into with competitors who will not accept the Editor's decision.

5. Any effort on which any alteration has been made will not be accepted. 6. In the event of a tie or ties in this Competition, the £150 prize or the contingent prizes of £150 and £50, as well as the special mauve coupon prize, will be equally divided.

7. Our employees are strictly debarred from entering this competition.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD.

FOOTBALL READERS MAY NOW ENTER.

DUPLICATE COUPON.

The following duplicate list of the matches is printed solely for the convenience of competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts marked on the Entrance Form.

H.A.D.	TEAMS.	H.A.D.	TEAMS.
	Scotland v. England		Blackpool v. Bolton
	Blackburn R. v. Bolton		Bury v. W. Bromwich A.
	Sunderland v. Sheffield W.		Fulham v. W. Bromwich A.
	Derby C. v. Manchester U.		Lincoln C. v. W. Bromwich A.
	Tottenham H. v. Liverpool		Notts F. v. Leeds C.
	Everton v. W. Bromwich A.		Woolwich A. v. Bristol C.
	Manchester C. v. Oldham A.		Bristol R. v. Brighton & H.
	Sheffield U. v. Barnley		Merthyr T. v. Southend
	Huddersfield T. v. Stockport C.		West Ham U. v. Northampton
	Barnsley v. Notts C.		Queen's P.R. v. Exeter C.

JOHN BULL.

*Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant :
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.*

Vol. XVI. No. 408. Week ending Saturday, March 28th 1914.

One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All FINANCIAL, INSURANCE and SPORTING inquiries should be addressed to the CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C. All other communications should be addressed to 93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for MARCH 21st, 1914, bearing on its Cover the Number 062,388.

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL,"
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

The End in Sight.

We have always thought that the final trial and failure of the Party System would come in the stress of industrial revolution. We still doubt that the Ulster row will precipitate it. A fight to the death implies something to fight about. As we pointed out last week, there is no longer any fundamental difference between the combatants. The crisis will pass. There will be no civil war; it will all end—not in the smoke of battle, but the steam of talk, finishing up with an election and then compromise. For with Mr. Redmond's party still in the House, the others are impotent without an independent majority; and that neither of them will get.

Sporting Sweepstakes.

There has been much piffle in the papers recently on the subject of sporting sweepstakes, and several garbled reports of interviews with the Swiss authorities have been published. As a matter of fact, they are well-disposed towards the leading firms, and there is as little chance of the great John Bull Derby Sweepstake, for instance, being interfered with as of the Derby itself being stopped. Only the wrong 'uns will go.

"The Nine."

Or is it only eight now? But what has become of them? It was a shrewd move on the part of the Government to let the "official" Labour Party get in touch with them. That meant that no harm would be done.

Another Single-Week Football Contest. Prizes Still Increased. See Page 37.

The Party Game.

Do our readers realise the subtlety of the Unionist demand for a General Election before the passing of the Home Rule Bill into law? Do they understand that such an election, even though it sent the Government back to power with an increased majority, would necessitate the re-introduction of the Bill *de novo*, and that it would have then to run the gauntlet of three more sessions before it became operative under the Parliament Act—which requires that any measure sent up for Royal Assent without the sanction of the Lords must be passed by the Commons in "three consecutive sessions"? That is why Mr. Asquith says, "General Election after, and not before, the Bill becomes an Act." Funny game, isn't it?

Counsel for the King.

We indicated last week the manner, and the extent, of a justifiable intervention of the Crown in the present political crisis. We desire, however, to dissociate ourselves from such perfervid nonsense as that uttered, the other day, by Mr. J. H. Campbell, K.C., M.P., when—upon the hypothesis that the King would ultimately be called upon by his Ministers to assent to the Home Rule Bill—he expressed regret that "his should be the hand to put the seal on the betrayal of a loyal people." Such language from a King's Counsel, and, withal, a late Law Officer of the Crown, merits the severest condemnation.

The Starchfield Case.

Within a few days commences the trial of John Starchfield for the murder of his little son. In order that there may be no misapprehension of our position in the matter, we repeat that—holding the belief that a man, however poor, should have the advantage of the best legal aid when face to face with such a crisis, and naturally desirous of helping a "Carnegie hero," and one connected with our profession even so slightly as is the news vendor who is fighting for his life—we are defraying the entire expense of his defence. We can say no more at the moment.

Hobhouse Starts Well.

The new Postmaster-General evidently means to be not only abreast with, but ahead of, the times. One of our readers has received a letter, posted in North East London, and bearing the official stamp, "12.15 p.m. JU. 1."; whilst another sent us an envelope, received by him a few days ago, bearing a June post mark! Who says we are not waking things up?

"Cherchez la Femme."

Be prepared for some piquant—and truly French—revelations in connection with the Calmette-Caillaux case.

This Picture—and That!

How do you like your *Mary Bull* picture puzzles? They have caught on!

Truth Will Out.

Here is our robust contemporary, *Reynolds's*, in a refreshing vein of candour:—

Mr. Hobbhouse, the Postmaster General, has just returned from a visit to Germany, where he has made some interesting studies of German postal methods. Mr. Pease, the Minister for Education, is still in Germany investigating social and industrial conditions. May we venture to suggest to both the right honourable gentlemen that while Parliament is sitting they would be better employed in the British House of Commons, supporting the Government in the lobbies and making certain that there will be no snap divisions?

But the writer forgets that both Ministers went abroad for the express purpose of gaining knowledge to assist them in the work of their departments. You see, under the Party system, you appoint your Ministers first and then let them learn their business. Isn't it a lovely plan?

A Spurious Plea.

The "conscientious objector" is again abroad in the land, this time in connection with the compulsory clauses of the National Insurance Act. Of course the plea won't do, and refractory employers have had to make terms with the Courts in good round figures, and with their consciences as best they may. While yielding to none in our opposition to certain features of the Insurance Act, we cannot pretend to deplore this result. The conscience, like the spleen in the bodily economy, appears to be liable to morbid distention, in which condition it is apt to be a sad burden to its possessor and a dire nuisance to his neighbours. We all know the "Nonconformist conscience," with its dyspeptic moral and mental symptoms; most of us are frankly shy of the "conscientious objector"—and when Mr. Hayden Coffin solemnly assures us that his conscience won't let him lick stamps, our leg declines to be pulled.

What a Game!

Remember that Romford with 60,000 electors, Harrow with 45,000, Durham and Wick with fewer than 3,000 apiece, and Kilkenny with fewer than 2,000, have each one representative in the House of Commons. Reflect, too, that in these and all other constituencies, the sitting member represents but a section of the electors; that only a fraction of the adult male population is admitted to the electorate, the remainder being excluded by obsolete laws; and women are unfranchised even upon matters which are entirely or mainly their own concern. Observe again that members elected to Parliament vote, not according to their own consciences, or even to the wishes of their constituents, but in obedience to the inexorable dictates of the Party Whips. Think on these things, and then try not to smile when next you hear a Cabinet Minister take a deep breath and say that "the will of the People must and shall prevail."

"From the Bottom of the Sea."

"On behalf of a staff of naval wireless operators," a reader refers to our recent comments on Captain P. B. Coulston's allegation that the Admiralty, for reasons of their own, were keeping back wireless messages from the ill-fated submarine A7. "The messages referred to 'which would never be published,'" he says, "will never be published, for the simple reason that A7 did not, and could not, send any message from the bottom of the sea, as she had no wireless installation. Furthermore, unless Captain Coulston and his army of eminent scientists had some unknown type of aerial in their bedrooms, capable of receiving untransmitted waves, we are at a loss to comprehend how he received them." Perhaps the Captain will now make our confusion less confounded.

The Vicar of Galleywood—and Another.

With reference to our comments on the thoroughly unchristian attitude of the Vicar of Galleywood, near Chelmsford—in refusing to accept for churching a woman whose child was born a few months after marriage, and sending her a disgraceful letter saying that her baby was "the child of sin," though "it might be legitimate in the eyes of the law"—a minister of a local chapel has willingly officiated. That is good; but in the circumstances even better was the kindly offer of the Rev. R. Brock, Vicar of Criggion, Shrewsbury, himself a High Churchman, to do what the Vicar of Galleywood so insultingly and so uncharitably refused to do. As soon as Mr. Brock read our article, he wrote to us a letter as to which we will say no more than that it is in the spirit which appeals to our ideas about such things. Accordingly, we offered to pay the fare of the woman to Criggion for the purpose of the churching, but by this time the minister of the chapel had acted the right way in the matter. We could not wish for a more splendid rebuke to the pharisaic formalism and uncharity of the Vicar of Galleywood.

Sharp Practices.

Certain members of the Willesden Education Committee have been "too clever by half." When recently journeying by rail to attend a conference, instead of travelling first-class as would of course have befitted their dignity and high status, they rode "third," with the common herd. When it came to "charging up" their expenses, however, they with one accord entered first-class fares, thinking to pocket the difference. It seems, however, that prying eyes must have witnessed their departure or return, for in some way or other the circumstances leaked out, and the Local Government Board auditor has now surcharged them the full amount of their "profits," and they are then no whit better off than as though they had travelled like real "gentlemen." Meanness rarely pays.

That Little Bill.

If things continue to go on as at present, even Mr. Lloyd George will be unable to resist that little Bill of ours relating to Dormant Bank Balances and Unclaimed Securities. The latest haul comes from the vaults of an old private bank, and reveals the fact that for a hundred years there have been lying hidden there priceless treasures belonging to the Ashburnham family. How we should like to spend a fortnight's holiday down in those vaults, armed simply with Miss Richardson's hatchet—which would be quite formidable enough to open the rotting boxes piled on each other there.

Irresponsibility.

Discussing the naval situation, the *News of the World* quotes the statement in Prince Bulow's book to the effect that, at any time during comparatively recent years, Great Britain "could have destroyed all Germany's naval hopes," by the simple process of seizing her ships—and then adds, "It need hardly be said that no responsible statesman in this country ever dreamt of such a course." Well, we suppose we must not claim to have arrived at the stage of responsible statesmanship yet. All in good time, dear Prince Bulow.

"Cranks."

That is a word we frequently use. And it has brought down upon us a protest from a reader, who reminds us of Oliver Wendell Holmes' definition: "A crank is a man who does his own thinking." But we can give him a better one—also, we believe, of American origin: "A crank is a little thing which causes revolutions."

Winner of Our £1,000 Prize "Bullet." See Page 43.

Giving Rye Guardians Wry Faces.

Out of the plenitude of their sympathy for the casuals who drift into their sphere of influence, the Board of Guardians of Rye, Sussex, recently decided to place tea upon the breakfast menu instead of clear, cold water, which hitherto has been the sole beverage permitted to the frequenters of the ward. But the Local Government Board have vetoed the hospitable design. We thoroughly agree with studying the interests of the ratepayers. We pay our quota of the Poor Rate ourselves, so speak feelingly. But at the same time, we have a certain amount of sympathy for the wretched tramps who are forced—whether through their own fault or by hard luck—to seek the hospitality of the workhouse, and consider cold water and dry bread poor fare on which to break the measure of stones which is the price charged for the shelter of the Union. Therefore we would be interested to know upon what grounds the substitution of tea for water has been forbidden, and also whether the forbidding word was uttered by Mr. John Burns prior to his relinquishing the Presidency of the Local Government Board, or by his successor in that post. If the latter, we think Mr. Samuel might have inaugurated his reign by giving a freer vent to his humanitarian instincts.

Careless Constables.

Prisoners contemplating self-destruction in the cells have frequently unearthed weird lethal resources, but it is not often that a would-be suicide is furnished with a knife by the police. Yet, according to the evidence of a constable at the Lyndhurst Police Court, this is what happened in the case of "Lee-Bond," the mad motorist whose violent escapades recently terrified the Hampshire countryside. Detained at Lyndhurst upon his arrest, the accused was supplied with a meal, together with a knife and a serviette, as becoming a person of his social dignity. With the knife he promptly cut his throat, though not fatally, and from all that is known of the man it is perhaps surprising that he did not make a much more terrible use of the weapon. In extenuation of their part in the affair, the police pleaded that "the knife had not been noticed." A lamer excuse could scarcely be conceived.

Smuts Out-Smuted.

As the Metropolitan Tramway Company's Bill at present stands the Company take power to fine any of their employees £20, or in the alternative to call upon a magistrate to inflict a sentence of three months' imprisonment, if they go on strike or cause any of their fellow-employees to do so. Even the ungentle Smuts seems never to have thought of this as a means of preventing strikes; and, to be candid, we don't think it will suit this climate. The fact is, we are all potential strikers, for every man has his price, and sooner or later takes his opportunity to kick if he doesn't get it. Even Mr. Lloyd George would strike if the House of Commons reduced the trade union rate for his own particular job.

Less Work and More Larks for Larkin.

Jim Larkin has lately expounded his gospel of work. It is likely to win many adherents. Speaking at Wylam, near Newcastle, he declared that workers thought too much of work. "I say, damn work!" he is reported to have said. "We want less work and more leisure." If "damn work" is the guiding principle of Mr. James Larkin, we must certainly give him credit for living up to it. But if he were on our staff and attempted to put his home-made maxim into practice, he would find himself fired out quicker even than the Government fired him out of gaol.

"Where Unemployment is Unknown!"

In a boosting circular sent out by Collings and Company, Limited, Emigration Agents, Rosemont Parade, North Finchley, they say: "Grasp the opportunity now, and be sure of success in Australia, where the demand for workers is more than in our own kingdom, and unemployment is unknown." Messrs. Collings and Co. will excuse us for being blunt, or perhaps they won't, but what we have to say is that the statement is a grotesque and audacious lie, and they know it. The Australian newspapers are constantly publishing accounts concerning unemployment in Australia, and every mail brings us letters detailing the sad experiences of able-bodied, willing, and capable English emigrants unable to get jobs. It is this sort of lie which is largely responsible for the lure. Here and now we hammer this one down. It will be remembered that Collings', when a privately-owned concern, advertised for men for the Canadian and Ontario police forces, though no such announcement had been authorised, as there were no vacancies. When one of the fooled men "cut up rough," Collings actually threatened to publish his name, thus ensuring his dismissal from the English force for endeavouring to better himself.

Unlawful Secrecy.

The recent trial of John Love Elliott, of Hammerwood House, Sussex, upon serious charges in regard to his two daughters, was conducted from start to finish behind closed doors. The defendant was a wealthy American engineer and there was little difficulty in persuading the Petty Sessional Bench to exclude Press and public from the preliminary hearing. We should have expected better things, however, from Mr. Justice Bray, who was the presiding Judge at the subsequent trial at the Sussex Assizes. Having regard, as he said, to the nature of the evidence, his Lordship thought fit to exclude from the Court all persons except those immediately concerned in the case, even representatives of the Press being apparently forbidden to remain. Yet the case was eminently one to which the fullest publicity should have attached. The declared law of the land with reference to this vital matter should be made binding upon puisne judges.

Police Deadheads at Guildford.

Since we had a few words to say on the decision of the Guildford Magistrates in respect of places licensed for music and dancing, that "admission shall be given at all times to members of the Borough police force, whether in uniform or plain clothes," they have thought better of it, and have now altered the decision in accord with the usual practice elsewhere—free admission being requisite only for police specially authorised for the duty. Not only so, for the Magistrates now "strongly advise" those licensees who have been giving free passes and free drinks to the force to cease that shocking practice. It is very creditable to the Guildford Magistrates that they read their JOHN BULL with a view to their improvement in that sphere of life to which it hath pleased the Lord Chancellor to call them.

Gainsborough Council Shocked.

Members of the Gainsborough Town Council felt awfully shocked the other day when the Rev. W. R. Clark-Lewis brought forward a motion in favour of mixed bathing in the local baths, and they promptly rejected it. That Mr. Lewis appreciates a mixed congregation goes without saying, but the majority are firmly determined that they will not have Gainsborough turned into a Continental watering place. The bare possibility of such a thing fills them with horror.

More Cash Paid for Football Skill. Result of No. 14 Contest. See page 5.

From Dr. A. W. Fuller.

Dr. A. W. Fuller, of Upper Baker Street, N.W., appreciates our remarks in the case of Mr. Hall Wright, the Birmingham solicitor, but lectures us in a severe tone of voice because, according to him, we do not treat other professional men—to wit, doctors and clergymen—on the same principles of robust fairness. "Only last week you pilloried two panel doctors for taking payment from insured persons, and made use of such terms as 'shameful' and 'grossly improper.' . . . Your remarks frequently about another profession, to wit, that of the clergyman, are even worse." Dr. Fuller is reminded that our criticisms are based on facts. In the case of the two panel doctors, for instance, their conduct was the subject of complaint to, and inquiry by, the local Insurance Committee, and the facts on which we commented were the quoted conclusions of that Committee. In the matter of the clergy, also, our critical attitude is not general, but individual; it is concerned wholly with intolerance and bigotry practised by particular individuals in the name and under cover of the Christian Gospel. We try to think as well of our clerical readers as we are anxious they should think of us.

A Meek Point.

At the Chorley County Court the widow of an engineer recently claimed £300 damages in respect of the death of her husband. The man had committed suicide in a fit of insanity, and it was argued that his mental derangement was traceable to an injury to his eyes, sustained in the course of his employment. A doctrine akin to that of "remoteness of damage" has hitherto been held to govern such cases, the contention being that the death of the workman cannot be traced with sufficient certainty to the injury suffered. The Chorley judge has reserved his decision, but in any case there will probably be an appeal from his judgment, in order that the point at issue may be more authoritatively determined. It will be remembered that we recently devoted considerable space to circumstances of a similar character. Though happily of rare occurrence, such cases are usually of a most distressing character, and we trust the judges will take as humane a view of the law as is consistent with their duty.

The Missing Card.

There seems to be no limit to the "hard cases" arising in the administration of the Insurance Act. On the sickness side we have had false accusations of malingering, obscure diseases, irregular benefits and incompetent doctoring; while, in the maternity section, we have heard of wicked husbands who "collared" the thirty shillings and spent it upon neckties, picture postcards, prize canaries, beer, and even a bull-pup. Now comes the case of a proud mother who cannot obtain the bonus which she has lawfully earned because her husband has secreted his insurance card, threats and persuasion having alike failed to make him produce it. After a futile application to a magistrate, the thorny problem has been referred to the Commissioners for solution, the Secretary of the Approved Society being apparently unauthorised to pay the money without the husband's intervention. Meanwhile, the baby has died.

Sub-Postmasters and Insurance Stamps.

A disgruntled sub-postmaster wants to know whether we know that sub-masters get as little as £2 commission for selling £1,000 worth of Insurance stamps. We do; and with all the other official and semi-official expenses of administering the Act, our wonder is that they don't get a lot less.

The Gas and the Slot.

The Gas Light and Coke Company have a rather novel method of adjusting their financial relations with the penny-in-the-slot gas-meter. Two receipts issued to an Islington householder are now before us. One sets forth that the cash put through the slot was 13s. 8d., 7d. being returned as "excess"; the other that the collector has confiscated 6d. of the said 7d. as "balance of account," leaving the actual return to the consumer 1d. The explanation of this summary appropriation was that the collector alleged an escape of gas somewhere; but as the Company has not made, or at any rate did not for seven weeks from the date of the receipt make, any attempt to stop the escape, it looks as though they have only to allege an escape, whether there is one or not, leave it escaping, and go on appropriating excess slot payments for ever and ever. It seems to us outrageous impudence that the Company should profit in this way at the cost of their consumers by wastage arising from their dilapidated plant, but this being the game, we should like to see one of the victimised bring his legitimate grievance to the test of a County Court.

A Lucky Thief.

At the London Sessions a young man, said to be "well-connected," was charged with obtaining by false pretences a sable stole and muff of the value of £40. The name in which he was charged was admittedly a false one, but with the consent of the Chairman it was employed throughout the proceedings, his identity being studiously suppressed. It was stated that the man had led a "fast" life, in the course of which he had issued valueless cheques to the amount of £241. He was, moreover, "wanted" by the City Police in connection with the virtual theft of a ring valued at £145 and a £15 gold watch. In all these circumstances, the learned Chairman thought fit to read the young rascal a pleasing homily upon the error of his way and to bind him over in the terms of the Probation Act. "Thank you very much," was the heartfelt response from the dock. So we should think.

Costly Lies.

A somewhat rare aspect of the "servant problem" has recently received interesting emphasis. At Chester, a girl brought an action for damages for slander against the daughter of her former mistress. It appears that, in the course of a telephone conversation, this young lady described the servant as "dishonest, untruthful, and unsteady, and not fit to be in a gentleman's house," all of which was, in fact, untrue. In consequence of the slander, the plaintiff had failed to obtain an attractive situation and the jury awarded her £25 damages. Their action should have a wholesome effect upon employers or their agents vexed with unbridled tongues. A master or mistress need not give a "character" to a discharged or retired servant, but should it be voluntarily furnished it must be untouched with spleen.

The Beast Again.

Percy Marriott, of 38, Cherrington Road, "a well-known Hanwell resident," is another of the abominations of the earth. According to evidence given in the police court, the habit of this beast was to take little children to the picture shows and defile them in the darkness. He was prosecuted in respect of two cases of the kind, but there is reason to believe he has been practising his indecencies for years. But he has been the leader of the local Band of Hope and a sidesman at a church. Consequently the Magistrates took this into consideration and simply inflicted a fine of £10, or two months', and of course the beast paid. Two months' without the option would have been more appropriate to the occasion.

Don't Forget the Pen Coupon on Page III. of Cover.

Bravo, Boys!

Hero manufacture may easily be overdone, and we are never disposed unduly to belaud pleasing manifestations of pluck. A word must be said, however, of the boys of the Wellesley training ship, which was recently destroyed by fire. We are assured that during the evacuation of the burning vessel, which held 300 lads, there was no single instance of panic or funk, the whole ship's company behaving, in the time-honoured phrase, "as though on parade." Silently and in perfect order the lads left their tasks at the call of the alarm bells, the only difficulty experienced being with those who wanted to stick to the pumps on the chance of saving the old barque. *That's the stuff.* And a word for the masters, too. Discipline of this stamp implies confidence and loyalty. What would have happened on the *Akbar*, we wonder.

Hiram, the Beneficent.

Sir Hiram Maxim is really a queer stick. "My Dear John," says he, "I do not agree with you at all in what you have to say about this little red book" (*The Sight of Hell*, written by the Rev. Father Furniss, for children). "I have purchased them by hundreds and have been sending them all over the world for years; I have sent many of them to China and these, with many other similar publications that I have sent to that country, have had their influence—as is witnessed by the fact that the Chinese have decided to stick to their old system of moral philosophy. This will liberate the poor missionaries and enable them to come home and till the soil." This is one way of looking at the atrocity, certainly; but, for our part, when a copy reaches us we invariably consign it where Father Furniss consigns the children.

Ilfracombe's Dainty Doctor.

We gather from the remarks of Dr. Edwin Slade-King, Medical Officer of Ilfracombe, that the perambulator trade in that charming watering-place is not as brisk as it should be. "The year 1913," he says in his Health Report, "corresponds exactly with the year 1911 in showing a balance of ten on the wrong side" of the birth rate. "This continued state of sexual inactivity is, to say the least of it, unfortunate." Dr. Slade-King has certainly a dainty way of expressing beautiful thoughts. As he proves by the statistics, business is awfully dull; and if we may venture a suggestion, it is that he should call a public meeting about it.

A Deaf Magistrate.

"In your answer to a Blackheath correspondent," says a reader, "it is perfectly correct that Mr. Hutton, Police Magistrate, is so deaf that it is quite evident he does not hear half the evidence, and there may be many miscarriages of justice. I am surprised you have not referred to this long ago." Where so many agree, it is difficult to believe they can be mistaken, and we put it to the Magistrate concerned that it is about time he retired from the Bench. Much as we regret any man's physical infirmity, it should not be allowed to stand in the way of the administration of public justice.

Us—in Russia.

For some time copies of *JOHN BULL* posted to one of our readers in St. Petersburg have vanished in the great unknown. Complaining to the Post Office officials there, they have written him to say that the Russian postal service can be answerable for the safe delivery of foreign publications only when they are subscribed for through the Russian Post Office. What are the St. Petersburg officials looking for, we wonder? The commission of the trade?

An Insurance Act Record.

The longer we live the more we wonder. Most people insured under the Rare and Refreshing Fruit Act grumble because they don't get ninepence for fourpence, but here we have D. Peters, of Maplin Street, Mile End, grumbling because he gets one-and-ninepence for fourpence. "I was very ill last week with lumbago," he says, "and Dr. Hastings attended me from Bow. When I sent up to the Jubilee Diamond Society they gave me the large sum of 1s. 9d. from the insurance. Now I am a married man of 50, and have to keep six children; how can I keep six children on 1s. 9d.?" It is a problem in dietetic economics, undoubtedly; but why not send out for one-shilling-and-ninepence worth of rare and refreshing fruit and see how far it goes? He should not forget that the banana is wonderfully feeding and that haricot beans, carrots, and turnips make a lovely soup.

The Truth.

An Egyptian reader sends us a copy of a paper called *The Truth*, in which we notice an article, "The Development of Palestine. O John Bull, Where Art Thou?" The editor of the same is assured that we are here, and very well, thank you.

THE WEEK'S "BISCUIT."

[*"Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical compliment. Below we present, each week, and in all good humour, the "Biscuit" to the individual or periodical named, in respect of the achievement or utterance indicated.*]

For stating (according to the *Market Mail*) that "Including £10,440 Brought Forward, its net profit for the year amounted to £15,064.

THE FINANCIER AND BULLIONIST

Takes the Biscuit.

RESULT OF OUR FOURTEENTH FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

Nobody succeeded in sending an "all correct" coupon. The following twenty-eight competitors, however, submitted coupons showing only two errors, and so share the £150 Prize. Each takes £5 7s. 2d.

ADAMS, G., 26, Darakey Street, Liverpool; AVERY, T., 10, Bellefield Road, Birmingham; BANCROFT, H., 205, Dukinfield Road, Hyde; BOOTH, F. J., 43, King Alfred Street, Derby; BOTTERELL, Mrs. A., 10, Ellerby St., Fulham, S.W.; BAGSHAW, Mrs. W., 18, Leamington, Huddersfield; BRIDGES, J. W., 228, Kingsby Avenue, Kettering; BOURNE, E. T., 12, South Street, Ponders End, N.; BEAKE, A. W., 135, Argyle St., Glasgow; CARTMEL, E., 140, Castleton Rd., Preston, Lancs.; CANN, Miss S., 11, Oldham Rd., Manchester; HINDLE, Miss MARY, 29, Thursby Rd., Burnley, Lancs.; HOLLAND, R., 182, Clive Rd., Portsmouth; HICKS, L., 130, Monument Rd., Birmingham; HEAWOOD, W., 164, Old St., Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs.; KIRKPATRICK, Mrs., 3, Todholes Rd., Cleator Moor; MCPHERSON, JOSEPH, 22, Eskdale Street, Crosshill, Glasgow; NEWBOLT, W. T., 31, Stone Close Avenue, Doncaster; NUTTALL, Wm., 165, Bolton Road, Elton, Bury, Lancs.; POPE, Miss E., "Nursery," Woodside Road, Wood Green, N.; SCANLON, T., 51, Shrubland Road, Walthamstow; SHUTEWARD, H., 26, Lord St., Etruria, Staffordshire; STEPHENS, EDWIN, 8, Edenham St., Westbourne Park, W.; TYLER, Miss MARY, Wickham Court, West Wickham, Kent; VOCKINGS, G. A., 25, Railway Terrace, Eastbrook, near Cardiff, S.W.; WOOD, Miss E., 70, Lawson Rd., Southsea; WALMSLEY, G. W., 24, Markham St., Ardwick, Manchester; WALSH, JAMES, 17, Harrison St., Pollard St., Manchester.

The following thirty-five competitors sent Mauve Coupons, taken from "Mary Bull," showing only three errors, and so divide the £50 Prize. Each receives £1 8s. 7d.

JERS, Mrs., 187, Button Lane, York; ASHLEY, Mrs., 21, Dale Terrace, Sunderland; BENT, N., 70, Kirkdale Rd., Liverpool; BROWN, Mrs. JESSIE, 97, Livesey St., Manchester; BALL, Miss A., 14, Shenton St., Old Kent Rd., S.E.; CATO, ALICE, 40, Moreland St., City Rd., E.C.; DAVIES, Miss FLORENCE, 144, Upper Lloyd St., Moss Side, Manchester; EMM, Mrs. A., "Felicien," Longley Rd., Harrow; FAIRCLOUGH, Mrs., 20, Gamble St., Leigh, Lancs.; FLINT, Miss CLARICE E., 55, Rawson Rd., Bolton, Lancs.; FAWKES, Mrs., 12, Winchester St., Blackburn; GOWER, Mrs. C. E., 21, Bismarck St., Dewsbury Rd., Lough; GREGORY, Mrs., 233, Croydon Rd., Caterham Valley, Surrey; GILHAM, Mrs. F., 19, Windsor St., Chertsey, Surrey; HARRIS, ELLEN, 10, Tulloch St., Newcastle-on-Tyne; HARRISON, Mrs., 62, Boyland St., Sheffield; HORWOOD, C., 3, High Street, Rhyl; HARGREAVES, Miss, Bellfield Ave., Cheddle, Hulme, Manchester; MCCROFT, Mrs. R., 34, Avenue Road, Gorleston, No. 11, Mrs. F., 16, Fulwell Rd., Sunderland; PAULL, Mrs. A., 17, Francis St., Rhydyfelan, Pontypriid; RENANT, Mrs., 48, Harrington St., New Cleithorpes; ROLLASON, F. H., 32, Brackenbury Rd., Preston, Lancs.; RYAN, WINIFRED, 37, Brunswick Rd., South Tottenham, N.; RENWICK, L., 1, Dufferin Terrace, Deal; ROWLAND, Miss L., 21, Rockville St., Rock Ferry, Cheshire; SMITH, Mrs. S., 20, High St., Aston; SILLIS, Mrs. E., 265, Nottingham Rd., Basford, Notts; SMITHFIELD, NANCY P., Haygate Rd., Wellington, Salop; THOMSON, Miss A., Avon 4, Myland, Colchester; VARE, Mrs. A., 18, Railway Rd., Edg's Lynn; VARNER, Mrs. E., 3, Breidden View, Copthorne Rd., Shrewsbury; WARBURTON, JULIA B., 114, Park Rd., Burslem, Staffs.; WALTERS, Mrs. E., 17, Hind Street, Poplar, E.; WOOD, Miss BERTHA, 28, Victoria Rd., Dukinfield, Cheshire.

Three Words Win £1,000. See Result of Our £1,000 "Bullet" Offer. Page 43.

THE PLAYED-OUT LABOUR PARTY.

HOW A GLORIOUS OPPORTUNITY WAS THROWN AWAY.

Our contempt for the present Parliamentary Labour Party implies no disrespect for Labour. The record of our own public life, and the files of this journal, afford ample earnest of our concern for the well-being of the working man. In countless individual instances, our whole resources have been lent to the redress of his wrongs. In the discussion of social and political problems, we have usually been found on the side of "the bottom dog," although we have never refrained from needful criticism—for the average industrial worker is intensely human and apt, like the best of us, to err. We have never, however, fawned upon his vanity or flattered his foibles; but we have dealt squarely with his occasional excesses; and the contents of our correspondence afford us grateful assurance that we have not been misunderstood.

A HOLLOW FRAUD.

And now to our present purpose. There is an unpleasant thing to be said, and it had best be said bluntly. The Parliamentary Labour Party is an organised fraud and imposture. In no real sense does it represent the hosts of industrialism. It is out of touch with all that is most vital in organised Labour. Virile Trades Unionism already looks askance at its windy pretensions. The puerility of the whole concern is reflected in the personality of its "leaders." Ramsay MacDonald has no more real sympathy with Labour to-day than when as an elementary school teacher he held aloof from the Teachers' Union, thus reserving the right to "black-leg." Of the actual conditions of industrial toil, he knows nothing, except by hearsay. His business in life is to angle gracefully for Government favour as a dog may beg prettily for a biscuit. Keir Hardie is a reckless political adventurer whose record will not bear investigation. Henderson is that most egregious type of which the House presents several choice samples—a preacher turned politician. (It is said that, during the time he was Chairman of the Party, he raised his fee for sermons!) Then there is Mr. Barnes, gentle as a sucking dove; Mr. Snowden, the Socialist dreamer; and a little band of gospel missionaries and Temperance spouters,—leaving less than half a dozen of the common-sense O'Grady type. Shackleton and Bell have already been silenced by nice "comfy" jobs. And these be your gods, O Israel! Heaven-sent "leaders" of Labour's serried battalions; inspired heralds of the dawn!

WHOSE FAULT?

It may be urged that Parties, like nations, have the governors they deserve, and there is some force in the reflection. But that the manual workers of these islands can produce no sturdier type of representative we flatly decline to believe. Why, it will be said, do not they make a clean sweep of the "old gang," and instal in their stead leaders worthier of loyalty and regard? We fancy the reason is to be found in that curious inertia of human nature which induces acquiescence in the existing order of things, to the hindrance of vital reform. The phenomenon is by no means confined to the industrial proletariat. Why do the middle classes endure an obsolescent Party system, chock full of mischievous anomalies and reeking with chicane? They have suffered it so far for reasons precisely similar to those which have conduced to the permanence of Labour misrepresentation. Indeed, the two puzzles are part of the same problem. The Labour

phalanx at Westminster has become absorbed in the Party game. Its spirit has been sapped and devitalised by the Party atmosphere. At the moment it can scarcely lay claim to a separate existence. It is the Labour tail of the Liberal dog. Only once in recent history has the tail wagged the dog.

A WRONG BASIS.

The episode will be readily recalled. It was at the time of the passing of the Trades' Disputes Act. The Labour Party was new then, and the Government feared it. Thus, pledged to the reversal of the Taff Vale decision, it advanced a tentative scheme. The Labour group demanded complete immunity for Trades Union funds from actions-at-law for damages. They stood firm, and the Ministry yielded. Then the rot set in. The energies of the Party were exhausted in a single supreme effort. At any point during the intervening years they would have been hard put to it to justify their Parliamentary existence. The Socialists have captured the "Labour" movement in much the same spirit as Lord Salisbury once urged his co-religionists to capture the School Boards—and "Social" patronage has captured them. It is as Socialists that the Labour Members are generally nominated for Parliamentary election. Their much-vaunted collectivist doctrines are, however, of a somewhat anemic type, contrasting strangely with the vigorous propaganda of the German Social Democratic Party. But Socialists in theory they are, though scarcely a man of them could say "boo" to a capitalistic gosling.

SINS OF OMISSION.

Just think what might have been done by a group of practical men, untroubled with fads and on serious business bent. Suppose that, instead of sighing for the moon of Socialist idealism the Labour Party had bent its efforts to the betterment of the workers' lot under existing economic conditions. Imagine a Business Labour Party, rid of meaningless shibboleths and fired with practical enthusiasm. Make no mistake. There would be *real* fighting then, instead of comfortable sham manœuvres, but the arena of conflict would be clearly delimited. Not Capital, but oppressive Monopoly, would be the object of attack. Personal ownership would be respected, but private greed operating to the public detriment, would receive no quarter. Equality of possession would be dismissed as an idle fancy but equality of *opportunity* would swiftly be translated into terms of law. For a *real* Labour Party, backed by the collective common sense of the workers, would brook few denials. Governments would tremble at its nod. Hoary frauds, age-long oppressions, legalised swindles, unjust laws would disappear before its wrath. Imagination can scarce suggest a limit to its power.

But the vision is beyond the ken of the Hardie-MacDonald clique. No shackles will fall at their uninspired bidding. Faddists, cranks, and killjoys never yet widened the liberties of a people. Utopian dreamers have never shaped the ordered progress of a nation. Democracy, with all its limitations and abuses, has a living soul which cannot be nurtured upon vain imaginings. Some day it will break its bonds, and the man of low estate will stand erect in the full dignity of an enfranchised citizenship, conscious of no distinction save that which lay in Nature's primal plan.

A BEAST AND A BULLET.

STARTLING SEQUEL TO A FULHAM FATALITY.

In an earlier issue we adverted to the case of Frederick George Green, a Fulham hairdresser, who recently pleaded guilty to a criminal assault upon his little step-daughter, a child of thirteen. Our purpose was to protest against the misdirected leniency of Judge Atherley Jones, who disposed of this shocking offence with the trifling penalty of three months' imprisonment in the second division. Such ill-advised clemency affords a palpable incentive to the commission of crime, and it is deplorable that the City Judge should ignore the necessity for exemplary punishment in cases of this character. Our misgiving is scarcely lessened by the fact that he has since thought fit to "bind over" another scoundrel of the same type, who was shown to have used a revolver to frighten his child victim into submission to his evil designs.

THE OLD EXCUSE.

We have a further purpose, however, in reverting to the circumstances of Green's conviction. In November last this man's second wife, the mother of the outraged girl, met with her death in peculiar and tragic circumstances. She died in the Richmond Infirmary as a result of gunshot wounds in the abdomen. The cause of the fatality was subsequently investigated by the Richmond Coroner, when a circumstantial story was advanced for the consideration of the jury. It was said that Green had accidentally shot his wife while "frightening a cat" with a revolver which he did not know to be loaded. This story was confirmed by the two children of the dead woman, aged respectively thirteen and twelve, who were the sole witnesses of the fatal occurrence. Green and his wife were believed to have lived upon amicable terms, and there was no obvious reason to doubt the explanation thus tendered. It appears to have been accepted by the jury without reserve. Neither of the children was subjected to cross-examination, the police merely watching the proceedings. Green himself, having been warned by the Coroner in the usual manner, declined to give sworn testimony in support of this version of the tragic affair. Even so, in the absence of any ascertainable motive there was perhaps little ground to suspect the man of crime. The inquest resulted in a verdict "that the woman was accidentally killed through the carelessness of the husband in using a revolver."

STARTLING SEQUEL.

Vital facts, however, since brought to light, were absent from the jury's consideration. The thirteen-year-old child whose evidence clearly impressed the jury could have told a more poignant tale had she been freely questioned. She could have said with truth that during her mother's lifetime her step-father had been guilty of improper conduct towards her. Had she been led to divulge this circumstance at the inquest, medical examination would doubtless have followed. Startling evidence, since forthcoming, would then have been available at the earlier inquiry. Its gravity can scarcely be exaggerated. It would have shown conclusively that at the time of Mrs. Green's death the child was in a condition which might at any moment have become patent to the observation of her mother, if indeed, it was not already within her knowledge. It would have demonstrated the fact that the bullet from Green's revolver served to cut the unhappy woman off for ever from the knowledge of her husband's infamy, if not of her daughter's shame. Had this evidence been before the jury at the inquest, it could not have failed to make a profound impression upon their minds. Their verdict loses its significance in the light of later revelations. The death of Mrs. Green was opportunely timed—but whether by Fate's decree alone has not yet been authoritatively determined.

The matter cannot be allowed to rest. This pampered second-class misdemeanant must be made to face the presumptions raised by his conviction and its attendant disclosures. We have neither the right nor the desire to prejudge the issue. Our purpose is to state the sterile logic of a situation which calls for immediate activity on the part of the police. Meanwhile, we must confess our surprise that the son of Ernest Jones, the Chartist, should show such strange compassion for the destroyers of the bodies and souls of children.

STIGGINS OVERREACHES HIMSELF.

DIVISIONAL COURT'S COLD DOUCHE.

No doubt it will be consoling to most of the population of these isles to know that Justices Channell, Lush and Atkin, sitting as a Divisional Court, have at last discovered something which isn't a lottery. Of late years eminent counsel for the Crown have been doing a lot of intellectual sweating, at enormous fees, to prove that everything is a lottery which the Nonconformist Conscience think ought to be one—from beggar-my-neighbour for nuts, to kiss-in-the-ring for bananas; and thus we had the ridiculous spectacle the other day of the Solicitor-General and the inevitable Mr. Muir splitting hairs and straws in an endeavour to convince the Divisional Court that the *Sunday Chronicle* competition, which is after the manner of *JOHN BULL'S "Bullets,"* is a lottery. It is really a pity the Crown cannot find some better employment for its distinguished counsel than briefing them on behalf of Stiggins and Co. Already the Lottery Acts have been stretched by judge-made law to the point of absurdity. Their Lordships' comments make it clear that, even in this case, they quashed the conviction unwillingly. So far as we are concerned, it certainly won't be wondered at if the new Stiggins' legislation—with which the country is threatened by the exceedingly busy people who are everlastingly fussing to reform other people's morals—will make it a criminal offence, punishable with six months' hard, to hazard a ha'penny on the chance as to which of two raindrops first reaches the bottom of a window-pane, or which of three-thousand-one-hundred-and-sixty-nine flies first gets stuck in the jam dish or first alights on any given bald head. And we don't mind betting the whole Divisional Court either a peppermint lozenge or an acidulated drop to a small portion of red tape that the day after this glorious piece of legislation decorates the Statute Book, the Attorney-General or the Solicitor-General, or Mr. Muir, or Mr. Bodkin will bob up in one of the Courts to argue—at enormous length and tremendous cost, on behalf of the Crown—that the statute was also intended to apply to any maiden lady who played patience with herself for a glass of lemonade and a sandwich. Any sort of foolery about the Lottery Acts seems good enough for Crown Counsel to argue in the Courts, and almost any sort of foolery is good enough for the judges to graft on to it.

THE PUNISHMENT TO FIT THE CRIME!

A HOLE IN THE HOUSING ACT.

An example of the slipshod character of Party legislation was brought to light the other day, when the Town Clerk to the Hampstead Borough Council—who was prosecuting a St. John's Wood tenant for non-compliance with an order of the Council to close a basement-room as a sleeping apartment—pointed out to the Marylebone Magistrate that, although the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, provided for such orders to be made, it failed to provide a penalty for disobedience, and that all that the Magistrate could do was to make another order for the first one to be complied with. Mr. Paul Taylor, having elicited that the Act was drawn by the present Government, declared it to be "one of the most preposterous things it is possible to imagine." So it may be. But at the same time it is a logical product of Party government and legislation. So long as the great Government Departments are controlled by placemen ignorant of their duties, and the drafting of Bills is left in the hands of coteries of scheming lawyers, to whom legislative omissions and defects mean well-fee'd briefs, so long will these Gilbertian situations arise. The case in question is worthy of a place in Savoy opera. A Pooh Bah makes an order on a recalcitrant tenant, who ignores it. A comedy magistrate then makes an order to enforce the order. This being equally ineffectual, a further magisterial order is made to enforce the order enforcing the original order. Nothing resulting, it becomes necessary to obtain an additional order to enforce the order enforcing the original order! We believe Mr. John Burns fathered the Housing Act. If so, he has proved himself to possess a keener sense of humour than we gave him credit for. Oh, for Business Bills!

If You Want £5 a Week for Life turn to page 25 NOW!

PITY THE POOR PATIENT!

By "AN INVALID."

(We publish the following, just as it reaches us, not because we necessarily associate ourselves with its sentiments, but because it has a ring of sincerity, and withal is a reminder of our duty towards our suffering fellow creatures.)

A fellow, though afflicted, likes other people to treat him as an ordinary human being who wishes to pass through life as inconspicuously as possible.

I enjoyed going out, seeing Nature's beauties, or hearing conversations on clever subjects or sport, now I dislike going out. My so-called friends and general public have made going out a trial. As one goes through the streets, one knows that people are vulgarly turning round to watch one's progress, and to pass remarks to each other loud enough for one to hear.

Also when I enter a room all conversation ceases, and I in my chair make my way down the room in perfect silence.

If by any chance anyone has a chat with me, the conversation consists of my own ailments—somebody they know exactly like me who died young, and they give me quite an address on trusting in the Lord and having faith.

"GET UNDERSTANDING."

Then they move on, thinking they have done their duty and entertained me. Oh! God, that these people might have the "understanding," might know my heart is aching for someone to treat me as they would a healthy person.

Talk to me about books—music—plays—cricket—football—and such things.

By all means invite me to tea; but when I arrive do not commence fussing round asking me, "Would I like another cushion, or the door closed," and oh, do not give me the family photograph album to look at—everybody does that.

Tell me something I do not know, of places you visit and I cannot, of people you know and I do not, or somebody you have perhaps heard sing—play—speak, etc.—whom I cannot go to hear.

I shall then enjoy my visit, and on returning to my home, shall have lots of pleasant things to think about.

If you buy me a present do not buy me a book on—"The Life of a Saint," "Twelve Lectures on Faith," or "The Soul of a Sinner." Send me a Rider Haggard, Conan Doyle, or Richard Marsh, and I shall bless you for ever.

Dear old Dickens, Scott, and the others you need not bother about, they are all good friends of mine, who understand my every mood. I live in a world of my own, such a wondrous world, full of beauty and exquisite sights.

Nothing ugly is allowed to enter, yet I am of this world as the first part of my letter shows.

In consequence perhaps of my not being physically correct, my mental faculties are sharpened, and there isn't a subject I cannot talk upon.

"ALONE, ALONE, ALL, ALL ALONE."

Now before closing this article, a word to those of my friends who are ministers. I belong to no denomination. I admire the glorious music, and wonderful sincerity of the Roman Catholic—my heart throbs quickly and the best in me rises when I sit in the magnificent "Houses of God" belonging to the "Church of England," and yet again the beautiful simplicity of the "Nonconformist" appeals to me, but it is to the ministers of each of these callings I would speak.

I number amongst my visitors one of each, but have not yet met my ideal. When visiting me—(I am young, and a male, if you are curious)—do not pray with me.

Some of you pray brightly, some as though my journey was nearly over, and others give a prayer of which I do not see the need. When I wish to go before the throne of my Greatest Friend, I wish to go entirely alone.

If you are anxious to pray for me, do so in your own rooms. I shall appreciate it the more.

Be more human, do not look as though it is you who should be worshipped—and do talk differently—not in that sing-song tone as though you had previously learned what you are saying. Now I will close.

Be natural—talk to me brightly on interesting subjects and if you must let me know you are sorry for me—well—grip hold of my hand—I shall understand.

THE RAILWAY LUNCH.

By F. C. MOORE.

I had occasion to make a short business trip the other day, and I fully intended to break my fast at some convenient interval on the steamer while crossing; but in the turmoil and excitement of a somewhat rough passage several other small matters engaged my mind and induced me to postpone my lunch until I landed and was in a position to give it my undivided attention. Shortly after getting ashore I raised the question with a gentlemanly official I met on the boat train, who entered into my idea at once. He said it had become quite popular lately, and he reserved a seat for me in the dining saloon, so that I should not feel crowded or obliged to take my lunch in company I did not care about. There was a brief delay of an hour or so, while the luggage was being sorted out on the platform, which gave me an opportunity to refresh my appetite and think about the various things I would like to eat, and how much I should enjoy them when I got them.

A SOURCE OF SOUP.

The table was very nicely laid, with rather more knives and forks and spoons on it than I generally use at one time, but I had no doubt that they were there for some wise purpose; and after untolding my raykin and placing it carefully on my knee (as I have always been brought up to do from a child) I glanced at the tastefully decorated menu which was standing in an elegant silver holder on the table. It was mostly in the French language, with which I am not so familiar as perhaps other people are.

Soon after, a waiter came in with three soup plates in each hand and two on his arms, which he successfully distributed to the different tables without breaking a single plate or spilling a drop of the contents. I was naturally much pleased with this feat, although I thought the discoloured water in the plates added unnecessarily to its difficulty; unless, indeed, it was intended to keep the plate warm until the soup arrived—but when I saw the gentleman opposite me, who seemed to be very well informed on general subjects, emptying his portion into a spoon and drinking it off, it flashed across me that this must be the "*Consommé Neapolitain*" mentioned in the menu. We got half an ounce each. I then amused myself with the wine list, which was a handsomely bound volume running into close upon thirty pages, until the waiter came round again with the fish.

On this topic I prefer to say nothing. No man depreciates party spirit and prejudice more than I do, but there are some subjects which it is difficult to discuss in a truly Christian spirit, and I feel that a certain element of bitterness is likely to creep into my handling of the fish question. To call the tail end of a paltry haddock—however, I shall dismiss the matter from my mind. It is better forgotten. The joint I can discuss calmly, although I think it a little take on the part of the carver to see how thin a slice he could cut without actually using a safety razor. Still it was undoubtedly meat, and would have saved me from the pangs of hunger if there had been enough of it. We wound up with a fruit salad—one plum, one prune, a slice of banana, and half a greengage in a teaspoonful of condensed milk. The bill came to half a crown, and the waiter obliged me by accepting a further sixpence as a slight acknowledgment of his services.

LUNCHING WITH DUKE HUMPHREY.

I cannot regard the railway lunch as being wholly satisfactory. I am grateful to the directors for allowing me to travel in a saloon carriage where the fittings and furniture are much superior to anything I can show in my own modest home. The company was select and well-behaved, and the table ornaments all that could be desired; but I have always been accustomed to eat a little food at my meals, and I cannot regard a lunch without victuals as a complete success. Even a gilt-edged wine list and the best silver-plated cutlery do not make up to me for the absence of solid nutriment. I am perfectly willing to pay twice as much for a meal in a train as it would cost me outside, but I like to get the meal, if you understand me. I believe the directors would make a bigger hit with the public if they laid more emphasis on the meal and less on the menu—if they supplied less French and more food.

New One-Week Football Contest. Don't Miss This Opportunity. Prices and Particulars on Page 37.

A REPELLENT "REHASH."

THE WHITEWASH BRUSH AT EXETER.

Our recent references to an unpleasant scandal affecting the management of the Exeter Isolation Hospital have excited considerable interest in the city. The "official" view of the matter apparently finds expression in the *Express and Echo*, a local journal, from which we take this illuminating comment:—

A member of the Exeter City Council drew my attention one day this week to an article in *JOHN BULL*, alleging a scandal at our Exeter Sanatorium. There were suggestions in it of gross mismanagement, of harsh and inconsiderate action by officials, and a demand for a public inquiry, the inference being that the City Council has been trying to hush the matter up. My friend was much perturbed by this article, and expressed his intention of asking searching questions at the next meeting of the Council.

The writer uses the pseudonym of "Cit." from which we infer that he is the self-constituted champion of citizen rights. The paragraph aptly summarises our article, and we have no objection to the "inference" drawn. Indeed, it is interesting to note that, thanks to the "hushing up" which we have taken leave to condemn, there was at least one member of the Exeter City Council who, but for our comments, would have remained ignorant to this hour of the facts.

For some reason or other "Cit." appears to have been mightily concerned to prevent free discussion of the unsavoury affair in the Council Chamber. Gently, but firmly, he restrained his indignant friend:—

I advised my friend to ascertain whether this was a new scandal or merely a revival of an old one that was disposed of more than twelve months ago. From internal evidence it is clear that the article, which seems to have alarmed some folk, is merely a re-hash of statements made in November and December, 1912.

The friends appear to have read our article inside out and upside down before they could be quite sure to which particular scandal it referred. A state of affairs in which allegations of gross mismanagement must be so far particularised is happily rare in the realms of municipal activity. Fortunately, our comments lacked no precision. Here is the "internal evidence" which the ardent Councillor and his cautious mentor at length discovered. We wrote:—

Early in 1913 disquieting rumours with reference to the internal management of the institution gained extensive currency.

It is thus clear that the scandal with which we are concerned is the very one which our contemporary has in mind. We are on the same scent. Our article was not a "new scandal" as "Cit." seems to have reason to fear, but, if he will, a "rehash" of a particularly unsavoury mixture which, dating from 1912, has not improved in the keeping.

Our contemporary is good enough to confirm our assertions as to the hole-and-corner fashion in which the authorities thought fit to dispose of grave charges of maladministration. Thus:—

The Local Government Board communicated with the City Council requesting their observations. Our Sanitary Committee carefully sifted the matter and sent an explanation which was so complete that the Local Government Board declined to hold an inquiry.

That the Sanitary Committee furnished a "complete" explanation after having "carefully sifted the matter" is a course of gratuitous assumption on the part of the writer. His account of the mode of investigation, however, coincides in all points with our own. The Committee held a secret inquiry into public charges and conveyed the result of its deliberations to the L.G.B. in a private report. The ratepayers of Exeter enjoy no assurance that the complaints were unfounded, beyond the bareipse dixit of a Committee which has never thought fit to issue a public report. That our contemporary is fully alive to this aspect of the situation is clear from its concluding observations:—

It is imperative that the City Council should dispose of the matter once for all, and I anticipate that an official statement will be made at an early meeting of the Council.

Unless this is done we may have the allegations repeated from time to time.

We think it more than likely. Meanwhile, we endorse the appeal of our contemporary for an authoritative public pronouncement.

THUS SAITH THE LAW.

SORROWING FATHER'S PATHETIC APPEAL.

There is no department of law in which there is wider scope for magisterial discrimination than in the enforcement of the penal clauses of the Education Acts. A case which recently engaged the attention of the Widnes Borough Bench is directly in point. A father was summoned at the instance of the Education Authority for failure to cause his daughter to attend regularly at school. The child, a girl of 13½, had passed into the seventh standard, where, in the ordinary course, she would shortly have "completed her education." Unhappily, however, her mother had fallen ill of an incurable disease, in which condition she could not be left in the house alone. The father was unable to secure voluntary assistance and much too poor to engage a paid attendant. He had accordingly kept his daughter from school to wait upon her sick mother during his absence from home.

In stating these facts to the Bench, the defendant intimated that he had fully explained the circumstances to the School Attendance Committee, and had applied for an "Exemption Order" in respect of the child. Justifying the refusal of this Order, the officer pleaded that the Committee had no power to exempt children from regular attendance. Be this as it may, the matter was clearly within the competence of the Justices. They, however, displayed a curious hesitancy, finally adjourning the case for a month. It is possible that this small respite might not have been granted, but for the vigorous speech of Major Warling, who strenuously resisted the contention that the law afforded no warrant for exemption—thus:

It is not the law of the Medes and Persians, and you can use your discretion. What does it matter if the exact letter of the by-laws is not complied with in a case of this nature? I shall have nothing to do with imposing a penalty in this case.

We congratulate the gallant Major upon his common-sense view of the situation. The child had probably learned at school all that she ever would learn, and it was not suggested that the exemption sought would operate to her detriment. On the contrary, her presence in the home might mitigate the mother's suffering and lighten the gloom of her remaining days. It was never intended that the compulsory clauses of the Education Acts should operate harshly in a case like this. The Widnes Magistrates enjoy a wide discretion, which in the circumstances before them should be sympathetically employed.

LET'S TALK OF GRAVES.

THE COMFORTS OF THE INSURANCE ACT.

Some time ago a domestic servant of Frimley, in Surrey, joined the Domestic Servants' Insurance Approved Society. She paid her contributions regularly, and on entering the matrimonial state recently, wrote to the Society to inform them of the fact. "Dear Madam," responded the Secretary under date March 3rd, "With reference to your letter, we have communicated with the Insurance Commission on the subject, and they inform us that nothing can be returned to you at present in respect to your past contributions. You will doubtless be very disappointed about this; it does not mean that you have lost what you have paid in the past, as a certain part of it is held over to provide against widowhood, should this contingency occur."

It will thus be seen that there is a great deal of comfort in the Insurance Act for a wife if she will but patiently wait for it; peradventure for the husband also. Having got matched, she will come into money when her consort is dispatched; while if she is dispatched before him he will probably be able, as executor of her will and administrator of her vast estate, to draw the contributions—if not in time for her funeral, at any rate in time for her resurrection. The Insurance Act gives real joy to marriage—for instead of staring out blankly and hopelessly on life for ever after on account of rates and taxes, wives and husbands have now something to look forward to; to wit, the obsequies of each other. This is obviously a great advance on Old Age Pensions, and how people can grumble about it at the low charge of threepence or fourpence a week passes our comprehension.

No More Bad Writing If You Use a "John Bull" Pen. Condon on Page iii. of Cover.

A PLEA FOR PITY.

FULHAM INVALID'S CRUEL FLIGHT.

We have frequently complained of the severity of certain magisterial Benches in their treatment of persons who, through sheer misfortune, have made default in the payment of municipal rates. A painful case of this character has recently been brought to our notice. In 1910, Henry Trump, a respectable resident of Fulham, suffered a stroke of paralysis, by which he was utterly incapacitated for active work. Since then he has contrived, with the assistance of his children, to eke out a scanty living, principally by the letting of apartments in the house in which he resides, the furniture of which is not his property. In November last he found himself unable to meet the Borough Council's rate demand for the current half-year, and he accordingly applied to the Town Clerk for relief, citing the Act of Parliament which provides for the remission of rates in cases of acute distress. Failing to obtain satisfaction from this officer, the applicant subsequently appealed to the Police Magistrate at the West London Court.

PUNISHING POVERTY.

The Magistrate went to the length of granting a summons against the Borough Council of Fulham, calling upon them to show cause why Trump should not enjoy the relief desired. Upon the hearing of this summons it was stated for the Council that his application had been considered upon its merits, and refused. In these circumstances, the Magistrate declined to interfere, and directed that the law must take its normal course. On the 15th of December last Trump again appeared at the Court and was sentenced to thirty-one days' imprisonment as a rate-defaulter. The state of his health was such that throughout this period he received medical attention in the gaol infirmary.

It is, we believe, the practice of magistrates to remit rates only in cases which are specially recommended to them by the Overseers of the Poor. Whether Trump's case has ever been properly considered by these officers, we are unable to say. In any case, we can scarcely assume that they have been fully apprised of the distressing circumstances of his position. Since his release from gaol, the unhappy man has striven to enlist the sympathy of a number of eminent public men. From inquiries which have resulted, it has been made apparent that in one important particular, at least, the authorities were gravely misled. Trump continues to occupy a house, the rental value of which is estimated at £39 per annum. While in the possession of a house of this size he is able, as we have said, to earn a partial livelihood by the letting of apartments. In apparent ignorance of this fact, the authorities have suggested that he should curtail his expenditure by removing to smaller premises. If further explanation be needed of the man's unwillingness to accept this suggestion, it may be added that he is bound by the terms of a somewhat onerous lease effected before the date of his disabling seizure. We cannot think that these facts were properly appreciated by the municipal authorities or by the West London Magistrate, even if they were actually within their cognisance. From a careful survey of the whole circumstances of the case, we are satisfied that it is pre-eminently of the character to which the provisions of the Relief Act should apply.

FIGHTING AGAINST ODDS.

Apart from the partial paralysis mentioned, we have medical authority for stating that Trump, who is 57 years of age, is to-day suffering from heart weakness and Bright's disease. Thus severely handicapped, he is making a manful struggle to keep outside the workhouse. His record is an unblemished one, and in no sense can it be suggested that his misfortunes are of his own making. It will be a monstrous thing if he is again permitted to suffer the hardship and indignity of gaol, by which—again we have medical authority—his broken health will most likely be still further impaired.

It is a severe commentary upon the present state of the law—or its enforcement—that a man in poor Trump's position should be imprisoned for non-payment of a debt which he is absolutely unable to avoid, whereas spend-thrifts in a higher walk of life are able to live for years at the expense of their tradesmen—the victims in many cases being either ruined or their businesses seriously crippled.

MERRY AND BRIGHT.

THE SALVATION ARMY AND THE "BRASS."

In case any of our readers wish to become Salvation Army bandsmen or songsters, here are a few particulars for their guidance. First of all, they must obtain from Headquarters an application form, upon which they must under solemn declaration, answer fifteen questions of searching character. This "solemn declaration" has the prospective wind-bag to:—

- (1) Sing or pray for the salvation of souls when he has an opportunity to do so.
- (2) Regularly attend band practice.
- (3) Pay "cartridges" (contribution) regularly.
- (4) Wear Salvation Army uniform (and pay for it).
- (5) Not belong to any other band.
- (6) Not use tobacco.
- (7) Not be in debt.
- (8) Have neither time nor inclination to join in social amusements and pastimes of unsaved or worldly people.
- (9) Abstain from attending or taking part in cricket or football matches, or similar sporting gatherings.
- (10) Shut himself out from theatres, music halls, dance halls, the circus, dancing rooms and bazars, and from all and every kind of gathering in which unconverted people mix together, whether they be called Christian or not, for the purpose of profit or amusement.

It will be noticed that the boycott of the unconverted is carried so far as to prohibit collecting from them.

The regulation that no "soldier" shall run in debt is an utter farce, as most of the local corps "owe" considerable sums to Headquarters, and practically always must be in this position, in consequence of the intricate financial system under which the "Army" is run, and which from the same cause, individually the members frequently either perish of hunger and cold or become friends. Decentralisation is what is required.

A CLEVER CONSTABLE.

FAME FOR A MEMBER OF THE HULL FORCE.

If there is any vacant public space in Hull suitable for a statuary, then certainly there is a policeman in the land who should have an effigy of lead, tin, zinc, putty, or brass. What his name is we know not, neither can we reveal his number; but if the Mayor and Corporation will apply to Mr. Halkett, the local Stipendiary, or his Clerk, they will doubtless be able to obtain ample particulars of his glory. What happened was that he brought before the Magistrate one Mary Powell, charging her with using bad language in the City Square. Mary stoutly denied the allegation according to the report, whereupon the officer "went into the witness box and said he had heard the bad language used, but did not hear the defendant use it; he saw, however, the lips of the defendant move, and the movements of the lips corresponded to the sounds he heard." This startling evidence so impressed the Stipendiary, that he promptly fined Mary 10s., with the alternative of 14 days! The value to Hull of a policeman with such an abnormal talent for wireless is therefore evident, for on these days a deacon may be walking along with his lips discussing the wonderful sermon of the parson, when the policeman will see his lips move from a distance of 150 yards and gather him in, in the twinkling of an eye, for some language too horrible even for a golf links. Or the Mayor or some other great personage of the city may exclaim, "Bliss be to that!" or "Odds bodikins!" to a friend at a street corner within sight of the zealous officer—who, having kept an eagle eye on his lips, will pounce on him with the full rigour of the law and presently convince the Magistrate that the language was of the most lurid character. The policeman will also be able to detect and obtain the conviction of all the Hull deaf and dumb people who use shocking lip signs in the public streets, in which men and women, boys and girls, will be so afraid of opening their mouths when he is about, that the city will soon possess the quietest thoroughfares in the whole country, while throat and lung diseases will entirely disappear as the result of affections. Other advantages of keeping the policeman in the force and encouraging his talents will occur to the community, and in default of a statue we suggest he should be promoted sergeant.

Result of Our No. 14 Football Contest. For Prizewinners see Page 5.



To the amateur, there is no apparent difference between a good seed and a bad one. You can only judge quality by results; consequently you must depend on the reputation of the firm from whom you obtain your seeds. That is why the Ryder reputation is of the utmost importance to you.

John and Mary have bought their seeds from Ryder's for 50 years. They know from experience that Ryder's seeds are really reliable—that they always develop into a glory of blossom, foliage and fragrance.

John takes up his pen and proceeds to send to Ryder's for the seeds he needs for this season. The results from Ryder's seeds have never disappointed him and he knows that they never will.

That the British Public place their confidence in the reputation which Ryder's have gained during fifty years existence as seed merchants, is proved by the almost overwhelming number of orders which are now being received daily.

Make your garden a success by sowing Ryder's seeds. All seeds from Orchids to Mustard and Cress IN PENNY PACKETS.

Illustrated Catalogue FREE.

The first step towards getting Ryder's seeds is to send for the Free Illustrated Catalogue. This book is full of interesting and valuable information and descriptions of all the latest and best strains of flower and vegetable seeds. It is profusely illustrated by reproductions from actual photographs of growing flowers and plants taken on the seed farms.

Easter is fast approaching, the time when all good gardeners sow their seeds. Do not delay, but send for your catalogue at once and order your seeds, so that you have them ready for sowing during the Easter Holidays.

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Use RYDER'S SOLUBLE MANURE, large tins, 2/6, smaller tins, 1/- Carriage Paid.

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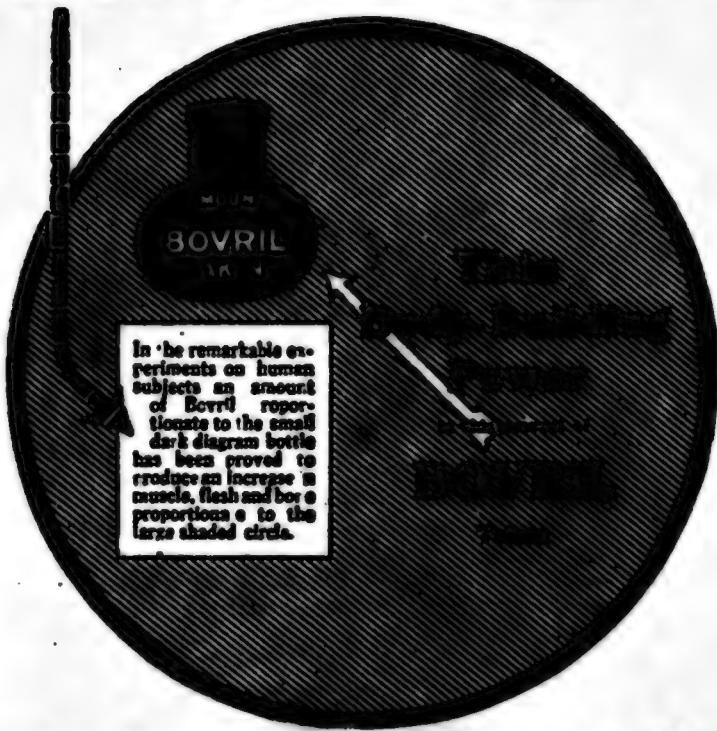
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Bovril has the peculiar power of enabling people to get from their food nourishment which they cannot obtain in any other way. Unless your system crushes the gold of nourishment out of the ore of food you cannot get strong or keep strong, however much you eat.

Until your food has become part of your muscle, flesh and bone, it cannot assist in that process of rebuilding the body which is essential to good health. If your food does not nourish, however you vary your diet; if you are not strong enough to resist illness, or if you cannot get strong after illness, you will find a magical change if you add Bovril to your diet.

Bovril is the only concentrated beef preparation which will be used in the forthcoming Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition under the leadership of Sir Ernest Shackleton.

this is the
Reason



"it-must-be-Bovril"

Have you tried Bovril with hot milk?

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."



To save the field of Waterloo
From jerrybuilders' clutch,
Ten thousand pounds they ask of you
And me—which isn't much!



Should civil war be Ulster's fate,
There is a man or two
Some think we ought to elevate
For all the world to view.



Nijinski from the Palace stage
Discovers he is barred:
Till facts are known we can't change
To say that it is hard.



Marconi (now a parrot cry)
Bore judge and all the same,
Though Elbank's accusers try
To rouse the dying flame.



The rise of Central London's rates—
Ten pence in eight short years—
Is not, declare the Moderates,
Through any fault of theirs.



Your girl may be a perfect peach,
But, all the same, take care
To see there is a peach for each
Else for a "brach" prepare.

A LOCAL GOVERNMENT FARCE.

ALL NOT WELL AT WELLS.

An unusual state of affairs has just come to light at Wells-next-the-Sea, a small town of some 2,500 inhabitants, which is governed by an Urban District Council.

This body, owing to financial difficulties, recently applied to the Local Government Board for a Provisional Order partially to repeal, alter or amend the local Improvement Act, and a day was duly notified upon which a Public Inquiry would be held. In the meantime, however, a Ratepayers' Association was formed in the town, whose members determined to oppose strongly the application for the Provisional Order, and engaged the services of a solicitor to act on their behalf.

Two days before the Public Inquiry was held, the Urban District Council met in Committee and resolved, by a majority, to rescind their resolution applying for the Provisional Order. The Clerk to the Council, however, pointed out that the resolution was illegal, as the meeting had not been specially called for the purpose. An amended resolution was, therefore, carried, regretting that the Council could not consent to the proposed alteration in the government of the town.

But this decision was arrived at too late to stop the Public Inquiry, and the position has thus been created of an official inquiry being held, with not only a large proportion of ratepayers, but also a majority of the District Council, in strong opposition to its own application. Indeed, when a properly convened meeting could be held, the Council rescinded its resolution by six votes to one!

THE HALFPENNY INSURANCE.

If in the daily ha'p'ny Press
Your portrait you would see,
A broken arm ensures success,
Or dislocated knee;
Some grievous hurt you must sustain,
And that is *quantum suff.*
If it be done by 'bus or train,
And if you're hurt enough.

Not only will your photo be
Emblazoned on the page,
But every week a cheque you'll see,
Your sufferings to assuage;
The money will arrive to date
Whenever it is due,
For, though you take the paper in,
It will not take in you.

So fame and fortune both are yours,
All ready for the asking;
Just get *half-killed*, and that ensures
In both you'll soon be basking.
Yet pause not with fate unfulfilled—
Just state sufficient grounds,
Prove that you've been *entirely* killed,
And claim one thousand pounds!

R. B. B. O.

Free Entry to Our Great Picture Competition. See Our Announcement on Page 25.

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You must make yourself worth it!

The world pays a man only what he is worth. You can be worth more and also earn or make more with the aid of the Harmsworth Business Library. Thousands of other young men have done it—you can do it too.

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You will feel that here is a personal message to yourself, showing how, by your own brain and backbone, you can reap the rich rewards of the commercial arena. You will learn the most valuable business secrets of men who have risen from poverty to affluence, from obscurity to power, from the bottom rung of the business ladder to the top.

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Read the opinions of a few subscribers who have saved money and made money by subscribing for the volumes.

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"We adopted the system of bookkeeping advocated in Volume 6, page 152, and it has saved us the whole cost of what we paid for the volumes. It has reduced our book debts by one half."

Mr. G. N. Thomson, 82, Lansdown Road, London, W.

"It has proved of inestimable benefit as a work of general reference on all phases of commercial activity, my only regret being that I did not possess the books years ago."

Mr. S. M. Browne, 17, Leslie St., Pollokshields, Glasgow.

"To my son who has just entered on a business career it has proved of immense service and benefit."

You can get the ten volumes of the Harmsworth Business Library delivered to your address immediately on payment of the first subscription of 2s. 6d., and the remainder of the price is payable by monthly subscriptions of 5s.

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Sir William Plender.	Capt. H. M. Jessel, M.P.	Mr. A. W. Gamage.
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There you have the Kings of British Commerce. Will you read them and learn their secrets? Can you afford to neglect the opportunity? The question is not "How much will the Harmsworth Business Library cost you?" The question is "How much will it save you?"

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Sign.—I should like to receive full particulars of how to obtain a FREE Combination Bookcase and Writing Desk with the Harmsworth Business Library, both to be delivered to me on first subscription of 2s. 6d.

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"MAGIC MIRROR" REFLECTIONS.**ARTFUL AMERICAN AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS.**

The Chicago Electrical Appliances Company has come to town, in the person of a Mr. A. Greene, armed with an electrical advertising device known as the Magic Mirror. The merits of this article as a business attracter do not concern us at the moment. For all we know, it may more than justify the eulogistic press notices with which Mr. Greene is bombarding possible agents. For example, according to the *Matin*, "Its extraordinary antics sets (sic.) all Paris laughing." The *Chicago Tribune*, in polished phraseology, declares that "the Magic Mirror outshines all its predecessors." In the opinion of the *Chicago Daily News* "it is the funniest thing in creation"—not even excepting the *Chicago Daily News*, we presume.

Our present purpose is to examine the terms which Mr. Greene offers to agents. These he sets forth in a long typewritten letter, marked "Confidential," from which we extract the following eloquent clauses, the italics (but not the capitals) in each case being our own:—

RE APPLICATION FOR AGENCY.

I am favourably impressed with the businesslike tone of your letter, and am disposed to, at any rate temporarily, place the appointment with you until such time as I can make it convenient to call upon you personally The invention which we are now introducing is undoubtedly THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY ADVERTISING NOVELTY EVER DEvised. It is to all appearances an ordinary bevel-edged mirror which all passers-by naturally and quite unconsciously glance in. The moment they do so, however, THE MIRROR DISAPPEARS AND IN ITS PLACE UP JUMPS WITH STARTLING SUDDENNESS A CLEAR CUT ILLUMINATED ADVERTISEMENT, THEN, after a pause, THE ADVERTISEMENT DISAPPEARS JUST AS SUDDENLY, AND BACK JUMPS THE MIRROR, leaving the spectators AMAZED AND BEWILDERED until they recover from the shock and look at one another for an explanation of this remarkable invention.

So much introductory. Now for the terms.

The retail price of the apparatus . . . is £6 6s. . . . The commission to agents is £2 2s. per machine. Commission accounts are made up and paid the last Wednesday of each month . . . Agents are supplied with ONE Machine only for demonstration purposes on payment of £2 15s. If results are not considered satisfactory the deposit is refunded, upon receipt of which Agents must immediately return the apparatus.

Who is to be the judge as to whether the results are satisfactory—the agent, or Mr. Greene? It is within the bounds of possibility that Mr. Greene might be quite satisfied to have disposed of a single Magic Mirror to an agent for £2 15s., and, however poor the business resulting, decline to receive it back and make the refund.

We think this important point should be made clear in the interests of possible agents, who, according to the terms set forth, will have first of all to invest £2 15s. in an uncertainty, and then wait a full month for the commission they earn—if any. So far as we can see, all the risks in this enterprise are on one side—a characteristic of so many businesses run by our American cousins.

THE SHAME OF GOD.

From Dronfield's calm sequestered vale ascends a bitter cry; Beneath the fabled gooseberry the stork has crept to die. There glows upon each maiden's cheek the blush that won't come off;

Expectant mothers hang their head whilst youthful cynics scoff.

The serpent's slime is over all now teacher's dared to show The coming matrons of our race why God has made them so. Indignant parents rend the air, aghast that love benign Has torn the tawdry veil that hides God's non-polluted shrine.

"Hence! Hence! abandoned wretch," they cry, "or cease thy shameful work,

Let prurience still fulfil the task that purity must shirk; The secret conclave—tittered jest—the writing on the wall—

Supply the needful stimulus to Nature's stifled call.

When Knowledge thief-like crept to US, such were the ways she trod,

And she was shamed, and we were shamed—and most ashamed of God."

A REGRETTABLE INCIDENT.**THE HONOUR OF THE FLAG.**

"My country, right or wrong," is a maxim which has practical application to international conflict already begun, but it cannot be properly applied to the incidents of peaceful intercourse between the subjects of rival nations. We have, therefore, made it our business to inquire into the circumstances in which a German ship's officer was recently alleged to have been harshly and unjustly treated by a British Court in the Island of Penang. The incident was briefly noticed in our issue of January 31st. It was alleged that a coloured policeman was sent to a Hamburg-Amerika liner, in the harbour, to collect a fine from a member of the crew, and that on returning to Court he reported that he had been prevented from carrying out his duty by the threats of the first officer of the vessel, a German named Max Pecht. A white inspector was thereupon despatched to arrest the officer, who was marched through the streets to the Courthouse, where he was ultimately fined £5. The story which we thus summarised was widely circulated in the German Press.

We have now obtained a lengthy report of the material proceedings which culminated in the conviction and punishment of Chief Officer Pecht. He was formally charged with assaulting a police constable and abetting a Chinese fireman in escaping from the custody of the police. The main circumstances of the affair, as related at the trial, accord closely with our earlier information. Pecht was arrested by an inspector who, upon his own admission, forcibly seized the officer and dragged him to the Court. With regard to the charges of assault and "abetting," the sole evidence was that of the coloured policeman who had first visited the vessel. This man bore no marks of violence, but despite Pecht's strenuous denials, his evidence seems to have been unreservedly accepted. The charge of assault was held proven, and the officer's refusal to permit the arrest of the Chinese appears to have been construed as "abetting." Pecht was then fined as stated.

We cannot extract much satisfaction from the report of the proceedings. Had the defendant been a British officer, or had the circumstances arisen in a Court in this country, we should have felt it our duty to enter an emphatic protest. The fact that the accused was a German ship's officer has no relevance to the principles at stake, though it may perhaps have served to give wide publicity to an incident which might else have passed unnoticed. The conviction of a European upon the uncorroborated testimony of a native policeman, who apparently understood neither German nor English, was in our judgment an indefensible proceeding. Moreover, there were many circumstances in the affair which urgently call for inquiry.

The legality of Pecht's arrest without a warrant is at least doubtful and, in any case, the manner of its execution was needlessly harsh and offensive.

The officer was actually in command of the ship at the time of the occurrence, and the selection of a native constable to visit the vessel was a tactless and discourteous measure. We commend the whole circumstances of the affair to the notice of the Colonial Office. Among the most vital factors in the overseas prestige of Britain is her world-wide reputation for justice and fair play.

GOING DOWN TO THE SEA IN SHIPS.**TOLL FOR THE BRAVE—LEAVE LOVED ONES TO STARVE.**

One of our naval readers sends us a document which makes us blush with shame. It is a memorial leaflet giving an account of the loss of H.M. Submarine A. 7, which foundered in Whitsand Bay on January 16th, with a loss of eleven brave lives. These leaflets are being sold at twopence each, and the proceeds are to provide a supplementary pension for the widows and orphans of the victims. It appears that the Government allowance for each widow is 5s. a week with an additional 1s. 6d. for each child. Few will deny that this is quite inadequate—and that Jack has to supply the deficiency by such means as that which we have indicated is a foul blot upon the national honour.

Result of Our No. 14 Football Contest. For Prizewinners see Page 5.

"HOW I REGAINED TEN YEARS OF MY LIFE."

Once Grey-Haired Man's Fascinating Narrative.

By the Adoption of a Remarkable Discovery, Not Only Did He Take Ten Years from His Appearance by Regaining all the Natural Colour of His Hair, but the Marvellous Change Recovered Him ten Years' Buoyancy of Spirit.

IF YOU ARE GREY-HAIRED YOU MAY HAVE A TRIAL SUPPLY OF "ASTOL" SENT FREE TO YOUR DOOR.

There are few, indeed, who can afford to neglect their appearance, because everyone, no matter in what sphere of life, feels it vitally necessary to preserve youthful attractiveness as long as possible.

THE MENACE OF GREY HAIR IN BUSINESS.

Take my own case—the case of thousands who are grey-haired and who will read with delight how I regained ten years of my life.

The first signs of Greyness made their appearance when I was only thirty. I was an

enthusiast in my business, but at thirty-six, through worry and overwork, I was nearly GAY. At forty my hair had become completely grey, and this only added to my troubles, for my principal began to talk about the energy and smartness of younger men, and my position was threatened.

At home, too, among friends, I was often referred to as an "old fellow," and gradually these satirically remarks broke down my spirits.

STAINS AND DYES ALWAYS OBVIOUS.

In looking round for a remedy I rejected the idea of stains and dyes entirely. They are always so obvious as to expose the user to ridicule.

One day I read what Mr. Edwards, of "Harlene Hair-Drill" fame, was saying about his new discovery, "Astol," and determined to try it.

"MIRACULOUS" THE ONLY WORD.

Miraculous is the only word that sufficiently expresses the result. With the very first bottle (a free trial supply which did not cost me a penny) my hair became perceptibly different, almost as though it were in sunlight.

In a short time, not only did it commence to regain its former youthful colour, but new hair grew, new colouring matter seemed to be forced upwards from the hair roots, and all traces of Greyness gradually disappeared.

The difference in appearance, due to "Astol," made me look ten years younger, and feel altogether more buoyant and self-confident. I feel I must tell everybody of this wonderful change and advise them to do as I did, send for a free trial supply so generously offered by Mr. Edwards. One incurs no obligation by doing so.

"ASTOL" A COLOURLESS, CLEAR LIQUID.

This "Astol" is so different from the ordinary so-called colour-restoring liquid, being almost colourless and not in the least degree disagreeably sticky or greasy. It is quite easy to apply, and, above all, quick to act, as those who give it a trial will find.

To women especially this wonderful preparation has come as an incalculable boon, as it enables them easily and without the slightest fear of detection to bring back a real youthful appearance.

THE SCIENTIFIC SIDE OF "ASTOL."

As a scientific discovery, "Astol" is fit to rank with the greatest achievements of modern research. It is the first hair colour restorer that is not merely a stain. It contains no injurious colouring matter or harmful dye of any kind, nor any injurious chemicals. It is a natural remedy which never fails, no matter how long you may have been grey-haired or what the cause of your greyness may have been. In brief, it is a scientific preparation that percolates directly to the pigmentary or colouring cells of the hair shafts, revitalizing and re-awakening the colouring functions. "Astol," with all its stimulative powers, is immediately absorbed into the follicles and down to the hair-roots, resulting in new pigment cells being formed which, in their turn, flood the hair with its own original, natural colour.

The "Astol" method is gradual in effect, but permanent and certain.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN "ASTOL" FREE.

So that every man and woman may speedily restore the natural colour and

beauty to their hair, Mr. Edwards has arranged to send all users of the form below a sample bottle of "Astol" with full instructions enabling them to commence a personal home treatment immediately.

No matter if your hair is going Grey from illness or shock, from age or worry, or if it is even quite white, you can take ten or twenty years from your appearance and add to your happiness and peace of mind by immediately adopting "Astol."

Just fill in the coupon and enclose with it 2d. stamps. That is all, and it will secure you a Free Home Trial of a sure hair-colour restorer, without placing you under any obligation.

Further supplies of "Astol" are obtainable in 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d. bottles, of all Chemists and Stores, or direct post free on remittance. Foreign postage extra. Cheques and Postal Orders should be crossed.

THIS COUPON entitles the user to commence the "Astol" cure for Greyness free of charge or obligation. Simply post it, filled in, to

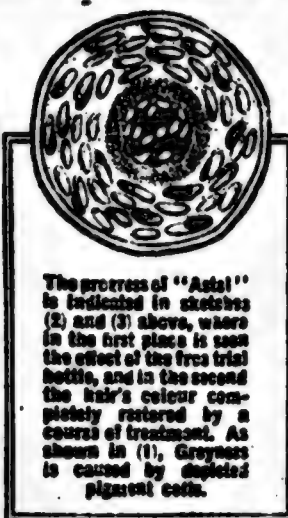
EDWARDS' "HARLENE" CO.,
104, High Holborn, London, W.C.

with 2d. stamps to pay postage to any part of the world. (Foreign stamps accepted.)

NAME

ADDRESS.....

JOHN BULL, 28-3-14.



It may suit some men—that fatal archaic appearance given by grey hair, but it is no friend to the bread-winner or the striver after promotion. Guard against greyness as you would against disease: it is as great an enemy. "Astol" averts all danger of Greyness, or banishes it if it has already come. Try it free to-day by using the Coupon below.



A SAUCY SHERLOCK.

WHAT SAYS THE DIVISIONAL COURT TO THIS?

We have upon several occasions referred to the operations of a German named Burger, who carries on the trade of a private detective at 13, New Oxford Street, under the good old English style of "Chas. Brown." He has now formed his business into a Limited Liability Company, with a capital of £1,000 divided into £1 shares. We cannot recommend an investment—indeed, on their merits the shares are not likely to meet with the approval of any prudent capitalist. Apparently recognising this, Brown has gone into the by-ways to get people to "come in." For instance, 15 shares were unloaded on a young German named Köckler, newly arrived in this country, who was promised by "Brown" employment as a detective at 30s. a week. "Like master, like man"—Köckler was anglicised, becoming "Richard Wilson," and his employer armed him with the following amazing document on blue official-looking foolscap:—

Police Court

Police District.

J. Charles Barker, Private Detective
 of 15 New Oxford Street W.C.
 in the Parish of Westminster in the
 County of London do solemnly and sincerely declare

that *Mr Richard Wilson of*
87 Portland Road Holland
Park Private Detective
in the course of his vocation,
as Private Detective has for
stand about in the streets
and do watching and tracing
from place to place and by
doing is asking quite easily
on my instructions and on
The interest of my clients

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the
 same to be true, and by virtue of the Provisions of the Act made and
 passed in the Fifth and Sixth years of the reign of His late Majesty
 King William the Fourth, intitled "The Summary Jurisdiction
 Act, 1814."

Given, subscribed, and sworn, before me
 at 4 Mark Lane W.C.

Notary Public for England and Wales

on 12th day of February

in the year of our Lord One Thousand
 Nine Hundred and Fourteen

Before me, Notary Public for England and Wales

Charles Brown

This truly imposing concoction is obviously capable of being put to very improper use. Flourished in the face of a person whom it was sought to intimidate, the "seal" with the neighbouring terrifying print thrust forward would almost certainly cause a nervous person to imagine that it was a warrant for his arrest! Indeed, unless the paper is intended to facilitate some such trick we are at a loss to see why the words "Police District" and "Police Court," in official type, appear upon it at all.

In view of the close scrutiny which the Divisional Court recently decided a Commissioner of Oaths must exercise to see that he does not give his official cachet to a spurious or improperly drawn document, we ask Mr. "G. H. Milner-Pugh, Commissioner for Oaths"—and who, by the bye, signed the Articles of Association of "Brown's" precious Company—whether the signature to this gross travesty of a Statutory Declaration is indeed his, as it purports to be. An additional reason for putting the question is that at the date of the attestation of this extraordinary bluffing document he was not a certificated solicitor or entitled to serve as a Commissioner for Oaths!

"COFFEE" AND WATER.

HOW HONEST RATEPAYERS ARE VEXED.

The Metropolitan Water Board have recently been on the rampage, and something like a water famine has been threatened in several suburban districts. Most Londoners know that it is the practice of the Board's Collectors to leave notices early in January, demanding summary payment of "the Water Rate for one quarter to March 31st next, due and payable on January 1st." The latter intimation has usually been regarded as a matter of form, and many quite substantial householders have habitually deferred payment till the approach of the quarter day. But, perhaps with a view to the improvement of its financial position, the Board seems to have determined upon an all-round "speeding-up," in the matter of collection, and since early in February notices in the following homely terms have been scattered broadcast throughout the Metropolitan area:—

Sir,

ARREARS OF WATER RATE.

I am directed to inform you that as the Water Rate for one quarter to March 31st next, which was due and payable on January 1st last, remains unpaid, instructions have been given for the withdrawal of the supply. The Board's workmen will attend for that purpose, on or immediately after.....next, unless the amount be previously paid to the Collector.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

FREDK. COFFEY,
Revenue Officer.

A Wood Green correspondent, who forwards one of these documents for our inspection, relates an unhappy experience which befel him two years ago. Before the end of the quarter the Board summarily cut off the water from his business premises. There were no outstanding arrears upon his account, this drastic action being solely directed to obtaining payment of a single instalment of the current rate. The withdrawal of the supply involved much inconvenience and considerable loss. Two days later he settled the account and was then presented with a further demand for 13s. 1d.—the cost of withdrawing and renewing the service. There is no limit to the absurdities of the Board's methods, and, apparently, it costs no more to owe two quarters' rates in Kensington than one quarter's in Wood Green. A Kensington correspondent who says that "the money is ready when they like to fetch it," has received a notice in the exact terms we have quoted. But should any person have the temerity to owe two quarters' rates in North Kensington, it will go hard with him. Thus fulminates the mighty Coffee to a former resident in Kensington Park Road:—

If the amount is still unpaid on the expiration of three days from the date thereof, the Receiving Officer will apply for a summons against you in the Police Court for the recovery of the same, and in order to avoid the costs which will be thereby incurred, etc., etc.

The debtor to whom this formidable missive was recently addressed, is now resident in Australia! On for a Business Board!

POLICE WITNESSES' COSTS.

TEMPTATIONS OF CONSTABLE X.Y.Z.

Our attention has been called to the lax manner in which New Scotland Yard remit to witnesses their costs. If a person is required in London upon a certain day, an "open" postal order is remitted, together with the following printed slip:—

The Receiver desires to point out that he is in no way responsible for the amount allowed to witnesses in Criminal Cases. The amount is fixed by the Court, subject to a scale approved by the Secretary of State, and consequently no enquiry can be answered by the Receiver respecting the amount now sent, which is that ordered by the Magistrate sitting at the Court where the case was heard.

Then, in addition to not being able to question the amount, the witness is not asked for a receipt—the dispatch of the postal order ending the matter. If such a form of keeping accounts were to be adopted in private concerns, it is more than likely there would be trouble. It is unfair to subject officials in responsible, but poorly paid, positions to the temptation involved in this system—or rather lack of it.

There is no sounder proof



of the sterling quality of "Midland" Furniture than this fact; that those who have once furnished at the "Midland" return to the "Midland" whenever they want anything new for their homes. Not merely because, at the "Midland," they get the widest choice and the lowest prices, but because the furniture itself is so soundly designed, so thoroughly well-made, that the more you use it, the more you appreciate its lasting quality.

Money buys more at the "Midland"

As actual manufacturers they save you middlemen's profits; whilst their enormous trade enables them to give you the utmost possible value. Moreover, they charge nothing for credit—no deposit, no interest. Customers can also obtain free insurance policies whereby all furniture purchased on Ideal Terms becomes the absolute property of the wife, in the event of the death of the purchaser. All Furniture thus purchased is also insured against fire, free. Customers' fares to town are paid on all orders of £20 and over. Packing and delivery gratis. Country Post orders receive the prompt attention of a special manager.



The illustration shows a really handsome Dining Room Suite, very soundly constructed to a design of the Queen Anne period. It consists of a 5 ft. Mahogany Sideboard, 5 ft. by 3 ft. 6 ins., Dining Table, 4 small Chairs (covered in red or green rexine), 2 Carvers to match, and a comfortably upholstered Easy Chair. Complete £19 19s. 0d.

Write for the Free Book of Furniture



Beautifully inlaid Sheraton Bedroom Suite, well made in Mahogany, comprising Wardrobe, Washstand with tiled back, Dressing Table and 2 rush-seated Chairs. Full-size Bedstead with wire spring, and Overlay Mattress, bolster and 2 feather pillows. Complete for the exceptionally low price of £19 19s. 0d.

It is the finest and most comprehensive Guide to Furnishing ever published. It contains over 1,000 photographs actually taken inside the "Midland" Salons. Send a postcard with your name and address, and you will get it free by return.

Ideal Terms (Town or Country)

Worth.	Per Month.	Worth.	Per Month.
£10 ..	.. 50 6 0	£50 ..	.. 51 0 0
£20 ..	.. 0 11 0	£100 ..	.. 2 6 0
£30 ..	.. 0 17 0	£200 ..	.. 4 10 0
£40 ..	.. 1 5 0	£500 ..	.. 11 5 0

Larger amounts pro rata.

10% discount for cash.

Midland

Furnishing Company, Ltd.,

Contractors to H.M. Crown Agents for the Colonies,
15 to 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

7 doors from Holborn and Holborn Tube Station.
1 minute from British Museum Tube Station.

Hours—9 till 5. Sats.—9 till 1.

Managing Director, GEORGE MICKLEY. (who has been connected with the business for 10 years).

NO BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS.

"THE GREATEST OF THESE —" HUMAN DOCUMENTS.

On this page every week we publish particulars of human derelicts whose cases, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

CCCVI.—A SUFFERING CHILD.

We want our readers to bring a ray of sunshine into the life of a girl only ten years of age. She is the daughter of a working man, and has five other little brothers and sisters.

The child has been a great sufferer from tubercular disease of the bones, and has undergone many operations. Her parents have done everything in their power for her, and we are afraid the other youngsters have had to go short. By the time this paragraph appears, she will have been discharged from a London hospital, and we are informed by a member of the local Education Committee that her only chance of recovery is a complete change of air and good nourishment. Can anything be done? We shall be glad to receive a letter of admission to a convalescent home—or perhaps some kind reader, living in the country, would be willing to accept her for a term. Left in her present surroundings, she will continue to suffer until death puts a speedy end to her pangs—and this little girl, with all her sad disadvantages, wants to live. Money, of course, will be required, and we shall be only too pleased to apply for her benefit any sums which may be sent.

CCCVII.—THE CURSE OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

There is a man of good character living in North London who would welcome back the days of slavery, for at any rate in those times a man and his family who were capable of and ready to work were at least assured of food and shelter. This is his position to-day. He has a wife and six children, the eldest a lad of sixteen. The family are all in good health, despite the fact that they are existing in a state of semi-starvation. For nearly eighteen months the man has had only a few weeks' casual employment. When we called upon them we inspected over a hundred pawn-tickets relating to bedding, clothing, household furniture, etc. The rent was 40s. in arrears, the baker was owed 15s., and the milkman 10s. The children were without boots, and had very little clothing. There was no fire in the grate, and very little food in the cupboard. The father was out looking for work; the poor lad had just returned from his day's toil, thoroughly exhausted. The broken-hearted mother, with despair written large upon her face, beseeched us to get her husband something to do. He is a labourer, and is only too eager to turn his hand to any honest work. Pending his obtaining it, we ask our readers to supply the family with the means of existence.

CCCVIII.—GENTEEL POVERTY.

Here is a case brought to our notice by a highly respectable tradesman. Living not far from his premises in the provinces, are a man and wife and seven children. They occupy a small house rented at a few shillings a week. The head of the family is a tailor—when he can get orders being a master man, in less favourable times working for an employer. He is thoroughly sober and industrious. A few days ago—much to the astonishment of our correspondent—the tailor called upon him and asked for a job. The poor fellow ultimately confessed—pride had restrained him until then—that he had had nothing to do for many months, the "bespoke" business, recently introduced into the district, being mainly responsible. A visit to the home elicited the fact that clothing and household furniture had been sold bit by bit in order to keep the family in food. Rent and a few small bills are owing. These items, however, press very heavily upon these sensitive people. The extending to them of a helping hand would, indeed, be an act of charity.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We have received the following, which we have forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" fund:

CCLXXXIX.—"Anonymous," 10s.
CCXC.—F.R.H.S., 23s.
CCXCII.—Mrs. G. H., 5s.; Mrs. E. G. S., 5s.
CCXCVI.—H. B., 1s.
CCXCVII.—"Saskatoon," parcel.
CCXCVIII.—W. A. W., 1s.
CCXCIX.—W. A. W., 1s.; "Another Marine," 2s. 6d.; "St. Pat," 1s.
CCC.—W. A. W., 1s.; "Renie," 1s.; "Sturton," 2s. 6d.; "Welshheart," parcel; E. E. H., 5s.
CCCI.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; "Alas," 5s.; J. M., 1s.; E. M. H., 4d.; "Pansey," 2s. 6d.; F. B., 1s.; "Delta," 1s. 6d.; "Scottish Small-Holder," 6s.; A. J. H., 1s.; E. J. W., 1s.; "Ladysmith," 4d.; "Kia-Ord," 5s.; Miss L. K., 2s. 6d.; "Winner of 23. 6d.," 6d.; J. H. H., 1s.; A. M., 1s.; C. A. B., 2s. 6d.; "Better Late than Never," 1s. 6d.; D. N. and R. B. (Rothsay), 2s.; E. S., 1s.; E. M. C., 1s.; W. C. B., 1s.
CCCII.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; "A Reader," 2s. 6d.; "Alas," 5s.; L. E., 2s. 6d.; H. R., 1d.; J. W. S., 1s.; "Tom," 2s.; "Little Johnnie," 8s.; A. J. B., 2s.; D. C., 3s.; P. B. S. P., 2s. 6d.; G. S., 2s. 6d.; J. D. F., 1s.; A. E. B., 6d.; F. C. H., 2s. 6d.

CCCIII.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; "Bert," 1s. 8d.; F. C. G., 5s.; "Draig Goch," 1s.; B. M. H., 4d.; Mrs. L., 1s.; F. R. P. S., 2s.

CCCIV.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; "Bert," 1s. 8d.; "Tom," 2s.; J. W. S., 1s.; "Bullet Prize," 2s. 6d.

CCCV.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; "Bert," 1s. 8d.; F. R. B., parcel; "Little Johnnie," 8s.; "Sick Berth Stewards" (S. C., Sheerness), 10s.; "Solomon Moses," 10s. 6d.

We have divided £10 for the JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund between CCCI and CCCIII, and £10 from the JOHN BULL Football Cup Sweepstake Charity Fund between CCCIV and CCV.

PATRICK O'BRIEN'S GRAND NATIONAL SWEEPSTAKE.

We have to acknowledge with great pleasure and show thanks a donation of £1,000 to our Human Document Fund from Mr. Patrick O'Brien, of Lucerne, Switzerland, being the agreed charity contribution in connection with his Grand National Sweepstake, the draw for which is reported on another page.

COLLECTING BOXES.

By the kindness of many of our readers we are enabled to add to our "Human Document" Fund by means of collecting boxes, which they are good enough to place on their premises. We shall be glad to hear from others willing to assist.

LONDON.—Mr. H. T. Cooper, "The Castle," Grosvenor Road, Walthamstow, 1s. 1d.; Mr. E. E. Gilbert, 17a, Upper Richmond Road, Putney, 2s. 6d.; Mr. F. L. Williams, 54, Nimrod Road, Streatham, 2s. 6d.; Mr. B. Levett, "The Cobden," Berger Road, Homerton, 41 1s. 1d.; Mr. W. Blensberg, "Prince of Wales," Lea Bridge Road, 24; Mr. H. Parry, "Coach and Horses," Matthias Road, 1s.; Mr. H. Briggs, 50, Newington Green, 1s. 8d.; Mr. I. Goldstein, "Bedford Arms," 1, Sandland Street, 1s. 1d.; Mr. M. S. Smith, 23 Bttn, London Regt., "Queen's," Mill Hill, Bermondsey, 4s. 6d.; Messrs. Beauner and Co., 3, Southampton Row, 1s. 1d.; Prince's Theatre Staff, Shaftesbury Avenue, 8s.; Mr. A. J. Blows, "The Colville," King's Road, Chelsea, 2s. 1d.; Mr. T. Rawlings, "Beaumont Arms," Beesborough Place, 1s.

LEICESTER.—Mrs. M. Niblett, Albion St., 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. Bolton, 23, Humberston Rd., 1s. 3d.; Mr. T. Cramp, Haynes Rd., 3s. 1d.; Mr. B. Bedford, Upper Kent St., 1s. 1d.; Mr. G. Dakin, "Shaftesbury Arms," Conduit St., 1s. 8d.; Mr. G. Green, "Hotel Balmoral," Melton Rd., 1s. 1d.; Mr. T. Fox, "Fish and Quat Hotel," Churchgate, 1s. 8d.

MANCHESTER.—Mr. B. Wilson, "Cricketer's Hotel," Bury New Road, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Dr. Blayney, Aspley House, Streteford, 2s. 1d.; Glasgow.—Mr. W. Turner, 83, Garscube Road, 1s. 10d.; Mr. A. St. John, 180, London Street, 1s. 8d.

GLoucester.—Miss R. M. Hunt, Workhouse Infirmary, 11s. 2d.

LITTON (nr. Rugby).—Mr. A. Crawford, 11, Vicarage Hill, 2s. 10d.; EDINBURGH.—Mr. F. Stevens, 99, Clerk Street, 1s. 6d.; Mr. C. Clark, 1, Roseburn Terrace, 2s. 3d.

Total, £4 12s. 6d., of which we have allocated £1 to CCCII; £2 to CCCI; and £1 12s. 6d. to CCCIII.

"Multum in Parvo" sends us 1s. for the writer of the article in our issue of March 14th, entitled "Living on Lloyd George."

Another Single-Week Football Contest.

Prizes Still Increased. See Page 37.

GRAVES SUITS are for Men who appreciate Good Tailoring at a strictly moderate price, and Graves Easy Terms enable them to dress smartly and well on limited outlay.

FOR
7/-
NOW



Wherever you live, our Easy Prices and Easy Terms are for YOU

THE GRAVES 48/- SUIT, EXACTLY TO MEASURES

The Graves 48/- Suit lifts its wearer above his fellows and endows him with an appearance altogether smarter & more gentlemanly than the man with clothes of ordinary make. The quality of the material in the Graves Suit is in keeping with its handsome style, and the excellent workmanship and superior finish are remarkable examples of truly high-grade tailoring at a strictly moderate price.

TERMS. Our terms of business enable you to have your Suit whilst paying for it. For 7/- NOW, we Deliver the Suit to approved orders, exactly to measure, carriage paid to destination, if you are entirely satisfied with Fit, Style, Quality and Value, the balance to be completed in 5 Monthly Payments of 7/- and one of 3/-, making 45/- in all. If you are in any way disappointed with the Suit, return it to us within seven days, & we will immediately refund every penny of your money without discussion.

WRITE FOR PATTERNS. A post card sent to-day will bring you samples ever submitted at the price, all cut from the actual cloth lengths now being made up for orders for the Graves 37/6 and 48/- Suits. Once you have the patterns in your hands you will be able to judge of the excellence of the materials we are using, the undoubted superiority of the designs, and the tastefulness of the shades and colourings. This comprehensive selection of cloths includes a splendid variety of TWEEDS, CHEVIOTS, WORSTED SERGES, PLAIN BLACK AND BLUE VICUNAS, and a remarkably fine range of genuine hard-wearing YORKSHIRE SUITINGS. In your own interest you should write for these patterns to-day, for whether you entrust us with your order or not, you should at least become acquainted with the dependable values we are offering.

GRAVES SUITS are for men of all ages. If you have preferences and ideas of your own as to how you would like your Suit making, simply tell us when sending your order, & your wishes will have our most careful attention. Honest values & reliable qualities ensure satisfaction.

Please say if Lines or Dark Patterns are desired.

GRAVES Ltd.
SHEFFIELD.

The Fullest Approval Money back if Disappointed.

'TIZ'—a Joy to Sore, Tired Feet

TIZ is just wonderful for sore, aching, swollen, perspiring feet and corns.

"How TIZ does help sore feet."



Good-bye, sore feet, burning feet, swollen, perspiring, tired feet. Good-bye, corns, hard skin, bunions, and raw spots. No more shoe tightness, no more limping with pain or drawing up your face in agony. TIZ is magical, acts right off. TIZ draws out all the poisonous exudations which puff up the feet. Use TIZ and wear smaller shoes. Ah! how comfortable your feet feel.

Get a 1/11 box of TIZ now at any chemist's or stores. Have good feet, glad feet, feet that never swell, never hurt, never get tired. A year's foot comfort guaranteed or money refunded.

FILL your pipe with the new Blend. You will appreciate its mellow charm. It is made by Taddy's, who have been blending choice tobacco since the reign of George II.

TADDY'S LONDON MIXTURE

Packed in 1-oz. and 2-oz. packets, and in 2-oz., 4lb. and 1lb. tins. 5d. per ounce.

Always smoke Taddy's Tobacco—the finest tobacco in the best blend.

You OWN Your Own Table

You can have a perfect Riley Billiard Table in your own home to play and practice on with no restriction of time. And you are paying while playing, and getting the same good game as if playing on a Riley standard Table.

A RILEY MINIATURE TABLE

will be sent to your home for Seven days' Free Trial. You can have week's play, and if for some reason or other you are not all-fired, pack it up and advise Riley's—they will have it removed free of cost to you.

Size	4 ft. 4 in. by 2 ft. 4 in.	£3 7/6	if Monthly Pay- ments 5 per cent. is added to cash prices.
..	5 ft. 4 in. by 2 ft. 10 in.	£4 7/6	
..	6 ft. 4 in. by 3 ft. 4 in.	£5 5/-	
..	7 ft. 4 in. by 3 ft. 10 in.	£7 5/-	
..	8 ft. 4 in. by 4 ft. 4 in.	£10	



Showing Riley Miniature table placed on dining table.

FREE on receipt of postcard, Illustrated Catalogue of Billiard and combine Dining Tables, etc.

E. J. RILEY, Ltd.,
Sheldon Works, Accrington.
London Showrooms, 147, Aldersgate St., E.C.

3 1/4 d. A DAY.

MONOCULAR MAGISTRATES.

SORRY SEQUEL TO A FAVERSHAM FIGHT.

A recent judgment of the Faversham Petty Sessional Bench has evoked widespread comment, and we have considerable sympathy with Mr. William Prince, a former member of the Metropolitan Police Force, in his efforts to secure a reversal of the Magistrates' decision. Prince was summoned in respect of an alleged assault upon Thomas Chittenden, a man with whom he was well acquainted. There was a cross-summons against Chittenden. The encounter occurred late on a Saturday evening, when Chittenden, walking with his wife, met Prince on the outskirts of the town.

It is not our practice to attach undue weight to *ex-parte* statements, and we therefore accept with all reserve the evidence tendered by Prince at the police-court. Unlike the Magistrates, however, we are indisposed to attach complete credence to the story told by Chittenden, which, apart from his wife's testimony, was equally uncorroborated. We prefer rather to notice certain facts to which, in our judgment, the attention of the Bench was insufficiently directed. Immediately after the encounter Prince went to the police-station and voluntarily reported the occurrence to the officer in charge. He exhibited his injuries, the most serious of which was a clean cut upon the forehead, about an eighth of an inch deep. This he alleged had been caused by Chittenden, who had hit him over the head with a bottle. He applied for a summons, but was told he must wait till Monday, when a warrant would probably be issued. Perforce content with this arrangement, he made his way home, his wound having been stitched by the police doctor.

We are at a loss to understand the subsequent proceedings. First Prince was refused a warrant, the Magistrates' Clerk holding that he must proceed by summons, to be applied for at a time prescribed. Meanwhile, the police had traced and interviewed Chittenden as a man against whom a serious charge had been preferred. They found him suffering from a bruise across his left arm and upon his elbow. On the appointed day, he appeared at the court to demand a summons against Prince for assault.

He was first in the field. Two minutes later, Prince appeared to demand similar process against his assailant.

At the time fixed for the hearing of the cross-summons, the charge against Prince was taken first, priority being assigned to the summons first issued. The fact that Prince had applied to the police ten minutes after the quarrel was wholly disregarded and its palatable significance ignored. Chittenden's story, echoed by his wife, was implicitly believed. It was held that he had broken a bottle over Prince's head in self-defence, or, alternatively, that Prince had dashed his head against the bottle. Prince was fined five shillings, and twelve shillings costs, with the option of seven days' gaol. The charge against Chittenden was summarily dismissed.

Justice would, in all probability, have been met by the dismissal of both summonses, though as to the seriousness of Prince's injuries there can be little doubt. In any case he was obviously entitled to priority of audience at the police-court, and to a fair and exhaustive investigation of his charges. There seems to be a clear case for the revision of the Magistrates' decision.

"THE SINS OF THE FATHERS."

A VICTIM TO THE INDISSOLUBILITY OF MARRIAGE FETTER.

"The evil that men do lives after them"—or when they have gone to a living death. The wife of a man who is now serving a long term of penal servitude has reason to agree with the adage. Her case is a very pathetic one, for the husband previously held a responsible Government position and in the course of a couple of years would have been entitled to a good pension. She and the two children are thus punished much more than is the man. After paying for his defence the poor woman was left practically penniless, but with a stout heart she went out to work—and also let lodgings. She managed to make ends meet until sickness came, when she was unable to keep up the rent, and is in danger of losing her furniture. Such sad cases greatly strengthen our determination to do everything possible to secure the passage of our Divorce Law Reform Bill, which would enable such poor creatures to marry again and thus obtain a natural protector.

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LIFE RAY CIGARETTES are larger, firmer, and made of better tobacco than any other "5-a-penny" cigarette on the market. That's a big claim, but it's true, and you can prove it in five minutes. It's the most remarkable value in cigarettes in the world.

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Pipes, etc., etc.

For instance, you can get a Boston Safety Razor with only 50 penny empty packets.

But it's the quality and value that we depend upon more than the prizes. Take a Penny Packet of LIFE RAYS, compare them with size, with length, with thickness, with any other at the same price. Compare the firmness, the way they are made. Notice the Tobacco, its colour, its freedom from dust; notice the difference in the mildness of the smoking.

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It will be the best Penny Packet of Cigarettes you ever smoked.

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I have proved

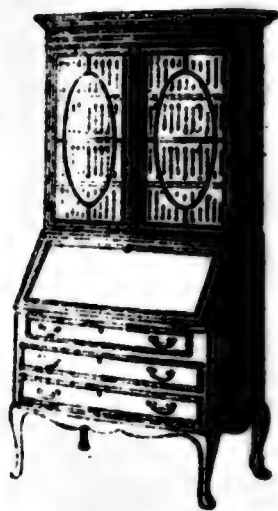
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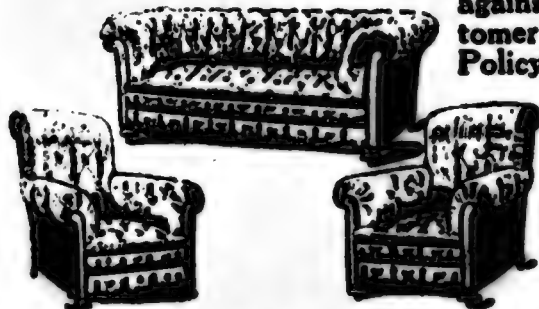
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CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

[This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.]

To the Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Clarke, P.C., K.C.

DEAR SIR EDWARD,—So you are shortly to retire from practice at the Bar, where for half a century your unique talents have found honourable employment. I sincerely trust that this step is dictated by no failure of your physical vigour and that many years of healthful life may yet be yours. In the forum of justice you have ever been an upright and honest pleader, and those who have suffered most sorely at your hands can point to no blemish upon your professional escutcheon. In the wider field of political affairs you have displayed a virile independence, scorning compromise of principle and hating the semblance of a lie. Your departure robs us of that rarest ornament of public life—an honest man.

JOHN BULL.

To Henry Terrell, Esq., K.C., M.P., House of Commons.

DEAR KING'S COUNSEL,—Rarely now do I pick up a newspaper in which I do not find references by public men, in public speeches, to the absurdity and futility of the Party system. It is one politician one day, and another the next; here a lord of an Opposition caucus and there a back bencher of the Government; now a business M.P., sick of the wild massacre of good non-Party propositions because Party leaders have no time and less inclination to discuss them, then a lawyer who sees in politics nothing but a game. I perceive that you have also been indulging—shall I say pious?—opinions, which I feel confident you would not like the Unionist Whips to hear of. Responding for the Houses of Parliament at a Gloucester banquet, you said "The Party system had gone mad and controlled things to such an extent that it was impossible for a Member to be entirely independent and vote according to his conscience; the result was that whatever Party was in power, the Ministry were absolute masters of the situation and did as they liked, and the time had come for breaking down the Party system." The sentiments are excellent for an after-dinner speech, dear sir, but they would be still more excellent if you and others who professed them would get hammers in your hands and smash up the Party machine. You cannot eat your cake and have it; you cannot use the Party machine for the ends of Party, and then complain that Party is a curse; and, indeed, I suppose the raging lion of Gloucester is as meek as a lamb when the Whip of his Party drives him into the lobbies of the House of Commons. However, I have put you on my list, for I have hopes of you.

JOHN BULL.

To Captain White, D.S.O.

DEAR CAPTAIN.—You are the son of a brave man—the late Field-Marshal Sir George White, the gallant defender of Ladysmith—and the D.S.O. you wear proves that pluck is one of your possessions. I am the more surprised to find you involved in civil brawls and labour riots in Dublin. Although the Dublin workers have many grievances (in which they are not singular) I cannot consider it courageous conduct on your part to encourage them in acts of violence against the police, whose duty it is to preserve law and order in all circumstances. Larkin's Citizen Army, which you are said to have drilled into a semblance of discipline, will never wring a single concession from employers—who, properly, will not permit themselves to be intimidated by a "ragged regiment." Your connection with Larkin's "force" is the more to be deprecated on that account. I do not question your motive nor doubt the genuineness of your sympathy; but I consider it my duty to point out to you that your association with the Dublin strikers in the capacity of "Military Instructor" is more likely to involve them in injury and distress than to help their cause. Mob violence and street fights are incompatible with true soldierly instincts. I therefore call upon you to show some respect for your father's memory, by severing yourself from a connection which can bring nothing but discredit to you and disaster to those you affect to serve.

JOHN BULL.

To General Johannes Smuts, Parliament House, South Africa.

DEAR SPOKESMAN,—I have it upon your authority that no fewer than four thousand white skilled workers have fled from South Africa since July of last year. You seek to thrust the whole blame for this unhappy state of affairs on to the shoulders of Labour agitators of the type of those now enjoying the hospitality of these shores. I cannot accept this version of the matter, nor am I sure—forgive my candour—that it represents your own sincere conviction. Unlike some of your colleagues, you are a competent student of social affairs, and you must know full well that the root causes of the trouble which you affect to deplore lie far deeper than the seething froth of surface unrest. You fear, I think with reason, that "the cherished white ideal has been shattered." Would you have us assume the sincerity of your regrets? If so, cease idle chatter. Bestir yourself, and act like a man.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Councillor Robinson, Darlington, Yorks.

SIR,—I am sorry that the Mayor had to rule out of order at the recent meeting of the Town Council your motion with respect to certain appointments of Justices of the Peace. I gather that the feeling against many of the nominations of the Advisory Committee is exceptionally strong, several gentlemen who have had the rank of magistracy conferred upon them being without any qualification for the office. I have long been of the opinion expressed in the terms of your motion "That the present system of appointing magistrates is open to abuse without redress"; and if you had ventured a step further and said that it is so abused, I should have agreed with you with even greater cordiality. Many of these Advisory Committees are wire-pulling and log-rolling concerns, neither more nor less. I have reason to believe that Darlington has special grounds for its disappointment, and its disgust, and I trust that means will be taken to impress upon the Lord Chancellor the fact that a number of the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee are entirely out of harmony with public feeling. You have every reason for satisfaction in the lead you have given.

JOHN BULL.

To Mrs. Hannah Kent, Park House, Welstanfon.

MADAM,—In my opinion, the inclusive penalties of £25, covering costs, inflicted on you by the Burslem Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. Bertram Brough, for your disgraceful ill-treatment of the young domestic servant in your employ are by no means excessive. From all I can gather, you are one of those bad-tempered women who are unfit to have a servant at all—more particularly a young girl, engaged in such circumstances and on such conditions as you employed Mary Palmer. You obtained her from the workhouse, without wages, for mere food and clothing, and experience proves that women who engage their servants from this class and on these terms are commonly the most difficult mistresses. However that may be, madam, I agree with the Stipendiary that you treated this girl badly. You thrashed her with a brush, bumped her head against the mantelpiece, struck her with a coal-hammer, and beat her with the fire-tongs; and though she may have been in some senses defective, nothing can excuse such shocking violence. If the girl did not suit you, you were at liberty to get rid of her. I trust the lesson will not be lost either upon you, or others like you.

JOHN BULL.

To the Policeman-on-the Beat, Staveley, Chesterfield.

DEAR P.C. BLUE,—From information received, I understand that for some time mysterious rappings have been heard at the "Nagg's Head," in your parts. Three distinct knocks as though somebody was striking a table—and heard, not in one room alone, but all over the house. I do not know whether you have already found a clue to these remarkable occurrences. For all I know, you may think they are due to an advertising agent beating up custom, or to a colony of rats trying to eat through the floorboards; but, *entre nous*, it is my opinion that if you consult the Psychical Research Society they will tell you they are to be explained by the fact that a spook from the astral plane is knocking for beer. Strike a light and you will probably find him.

JOHN BULL.

Winner of Our £1,000 Prize "Bullet." See Page 43.

THE DANGER "POINT."



WILL THEY GET PAST IT ?

JOHN BULL'S VARIETY TURNS.

THE SAVAGE SUFFRAGETTES.

VOCALISTS AND DANCERS.

DUET: We're not, you know,
From Borneo,
But still we're fairly savage;
For, to and fro,
Where'er we go,
The public peace we ravage;
At burning ricks,
And other tricks,
No one could be much smarter;
And when we're caught
We think it sport,
For each one is a Tartar!

CHORUS: Oh, we are savage Suffragettes
Yes, Suffra-Savagettes!
Though full of petty petulance,
Yet no one calls us pets!
We lead the constables a dance,
And bash them when we get the chance,
We are *such* bashful girls!—Advance,
The savage Suffragettes!

Dance.

DUET: We're in one boat
To get the vote
By hook or crook, you see,
And when it's won
We'll have some fun
With male humanity!
You men we'll make
Your jobs forsake,
To wash and dress the kids;
Then boss the show
Like you, you know,
Because we'll earn the quids!

CHORUS: Oh, we are savage Suffragettes,
Yes, Suffra-Savagettes;
And when, some day, we get the vote,
You bet, we'll pay our debts!
We owe you men a thing or two,
Which you ere long will vainly rue—
It will be useless then to sue
The savage Suffragettes!

Dance.

DUET: Meantime we're out
To whack about
With whips and stick, and so on;
In fact, we'll make
You monsters shake
To see the way we go on;
We'll cut and slash,
And make a hash,
Of things like Rokeby's Venus,
And play the very
Mad and merry
Devil's game between us!

CHORUS: Oh, we are savage Suffragettes,
Yes, Suffra-Savagettes!
Though full of petty petulance,
Yet no one calls us pets!
We lead the constables a chase,
And gladly scratch a whiskered face;
You bet, we girls are going the pace—
The savage Suffragettes!

ANOTHER POSTAL PLEASANTRY.

Yet one more matter in which the Post Office might exercise a little common sense. A letter, clearly directed to a full address in Cheldon, was returned to the sender endorsed "Insufficiently addressed." It seems a pity that the great Department cannot, apparently, afford to buy a good gazetteer—from which they would find that Cheldon is a hamlet in the north of Devon, and is one of the comparatively few places in the kingdom which has no duplicate in name.



If a Tootal Shirt
loses its color—we
return your money.

*The Reason Why—
is in the Dye.*

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Sun, rain, wind and the laundries' ruinous washing compounds—all are defied by the absolute "money-back" Guarantee stitched in the collar-band of every Tootal Shirt. Then wear Tootal Shirts and avoid all "washed-out" shirt disappointments. See them at your Outfitter's to-day.

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If you have any difficulty in obtaining Tootal Shirts write us and we will see that a selection of patterns is submitted to you. TOOTAL BROADHURST LEE CO., Ltd., Dept. 86, 132, Cheapside, London, E.C.4.

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OUR GREAT FREE PICTURE COMPETITION

has caught on! *Mary Bull*, with the second set of pictures, was sold out before publication. For the convenience of disappointed readers we are giving below the first two sets of pictures free—but please note these free sets will not be repeated. It is your last chance to take advantage of this unparalleled prize offer! Fill in your solutions now—what you have to do is explained below—then get *Mary Bull* on this Friday, March 27th, containing the third set. Increased supplies have been prepared—but be in time, buy your copies early.

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WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.
These pictures represent the
names of towns and cities in the
United Kingdom. Fill in be-
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the town or city you think it
represents. See Picture No. 1 for
example. There will be a few
sets only.

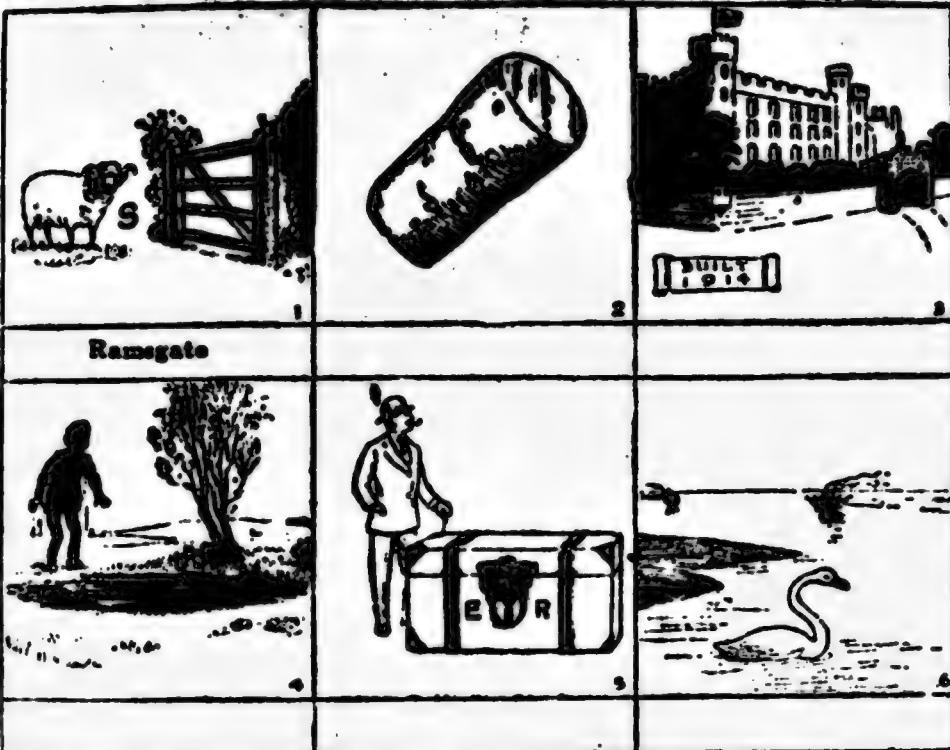
**Fill in these
FREE SETS
at once.**

Then Get This Week's

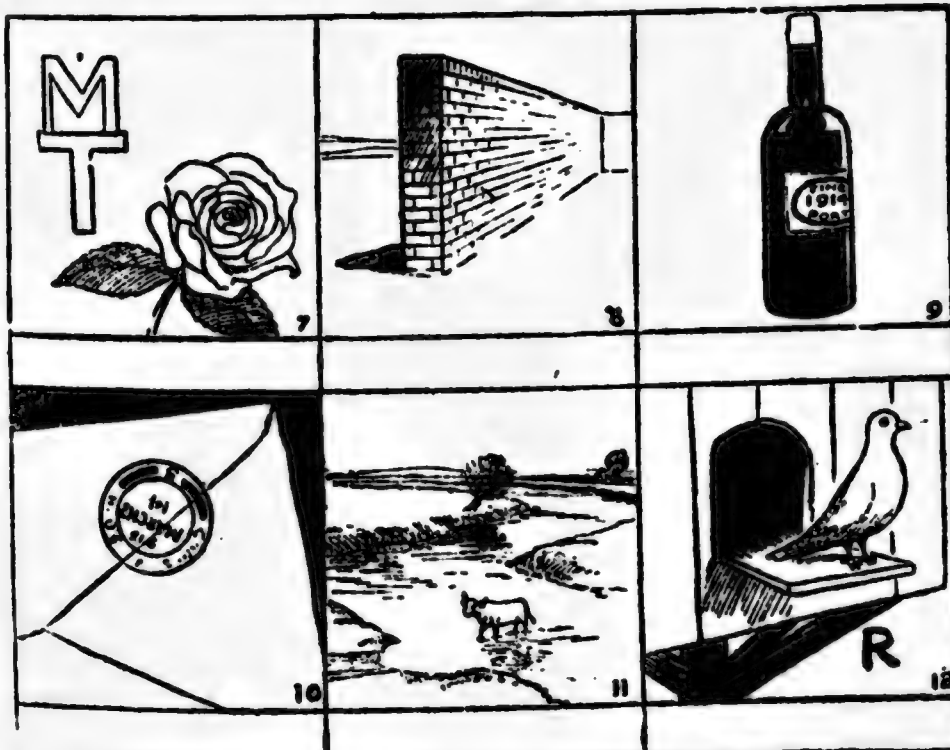
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BULL**

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Name and Address..... 1st SET.



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SALLY (to Molly, dressed in her best): "Hullo, what's hon—a weddink?"
MOLLY (proudly): "Goin' ter meet farrer; 'e comes out this morning."

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

THE PACIFIST.

WORKING WOMAN (entering compartment, accompanied by small boy carrying parcel): Don't pucher 'ead outer the winder, Willie, there's a goo' boy. . . . J'car wot I say? Sit quiet, an' pucher parcel on the seat.

WILLIE: I shouldn't 'arf like to 'ave a look at 'em, mum.

WORKING WOMAN: Carn'cher be a goo' boy on yer birfday? You'll on'y drop 'em or lose 'em or suthink.

WILLIE: No I won't, mum; straight, I won't.

WORKING WOMAN: Then you be careful, then. I don't know wotcher farther'd say if you lorst enny.

THE PACIFIST (elderly member of National Peace Council): Interesting little lad, madam. Your son?

WORKING WOMAN: Yes-sir. 'E's me eighth—and a reg'ler 'an'ful 'e is, too, not 'arf 'e ain't.

THE PACIFIST: Ah, well, madam, boys will be boys, you know. His birthday, is it?

WORKING WOMAN: Yes-sir. Seven, 'e is, though it don't seem seven yers since the day 'e wos born. Night, it wos, ter tell the trooth. I wos took bad erbout 'arf parst one in the mornin', an'—

THE PACIFIST (hurriedly): And that's a birthday present he's untying, eh? Impatient, like most boys of his age.

WORKING WOMAN: Yes-sir. It's a box of soljers. 'E's bin mad on a box o' soljers this larst six months, and—

THE PACIFIST (horrified): Soldiers! Do you think that is a profitable present to give your little son, my good woman?

WORKING WOMAN: Well, they do come a bit dear, sir. But 'e wos that set on 'em, an' 'is farther sed, let 'im 'ave 'em. 'Is birthday on'y comes once a yer. I tried to git 'im to 'ave a Lloyd George baby—you know, sir; one o' them injer rubber ones wotchew blows out an' wot dies yellin', like—kerlapis, as they calls it. But 'e wosn't 'avin' enny. 'E don't take to babies. 'E's orl fur the soljers, 'e is.

THE PACIFIST: It is a terrible thing that a child of his age should be encouraged in murderous thoughts.

WORKING WOMAN: I beg yer pardon, sir?

THE PACIFIST: I say it is an awful thing to imbue a child of such tender years—

WORKING WOMAN: Tender 'ears? 'Is ears is orl right, sir. Never even 'ad the carache. 'E's a n'calthy boy, 'e is.

THE PACIFIST: I was referring to the influence of toy soldiers on his plastic mind. You don't know what effect they might have. They might turn his thoughts to the Army, and—

WORKING WOMAN: I 'ope so, sir. Three of 'is brothers is doin' well in the Army, I'm proud to say. Two of 'em 'ave got their stripes already. They're good lads, orl of 'em.

THE PACIFIST: You horrify me, my good woman! Can you speak so calmly of your child becoming a licensed murderer, a butcher of his fellow-creatures?

WORKING WOMAN: I didn't say nuthink erbout butchers, sir, I sed they wos soljers; an' Willie, 'e wants to be one too.

THE PACIFIST: Detestable trade! Don't you realise the horror of it, my good woman? You, a mother, too.

WORKING WOMAN: Well, sir, I married "on the strength," and I can't say I ever see no 'errors. I p'raps the quarters we 'ad to put up with sometimes.

THE PACIFIST: And you are actually willing to devote your child to the cruel trade of war?

WORKING WOMAN: Well, we should be in a pretty bad way without the soljers, shoukln't we, sir? I don't see no 'arm in it meself. It's a 'calthy life, and a smart lad 'as plenty of chances of promotion. As fur 'is 'arm, a crool trade, it ain't 'arf so crool as some of the sweatin' I've seen since my 'usban' came out.

THE PACIFIST: And do you really want to be a soldier, my boy?

WILLIE: Yes.

WORKING WOMAN: Say "sir" to the gen'l man, there's a goo' boy.

THE PACIFIST: And why do you want to be a soldier?

WILLIE: Then I can cut yore 'ead orf! Can't I, mum?

GUARD: Orl change 'ere!

More Cash Paid for Football Skill. Result of No. 14 Contest. See Page 5.

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Land fit better
than other col-
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fragrance in the smoke itself that is
delightful and a revelation to those
accustomed to smoking ordinary tobaccos

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Big Instalment of Nat Gould's Latest and
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THIS WEEK WE REVIVE "SIMPLETS"

The Competition that "Answers" Abandoned.
First Prize, £100. Second, £20. Third, £5.
Ten of £1, and 100 Other Cash Prizes.

BUY FINDON'S WEEKLY
Competitors' Journal.
TO-DAY.

HOW AND WHEN TO WORK.

A SPURIOUS SYMPOSIUM.

A contemporary having recently published the statements of a few prominent people regarding the conditions under which they turn out their best work, we decided, for the benefit of our readers, to enlarge the scope of the inquiry by addressing the following questions to the celebrities whose replies we print below:—

At what time of the day or night, in what environment, and under what mental and physical conditions, do you perform your best work?

MR. ASQUITH:

As to the time, usually at Question time. Respecting environment, I find the Treasury Bench in the House of Commons the most helpful. I can do good work under almost any mental and physical conditions, but must say that my ideas flow most freely when I am "toeing the line"—a graceful and restful attitude which, I believe, I was the first to reduce to a science.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE:

I find the evening the best time for work. As regards environment, Limehouse suits me best. A square meal of mangel-fed pheasants stimulates me most, and a denunciatory attitude greatly assists my flow of speech.

MR. JAMES LARKIN:

"Damn work!"

SIR EDWARD CARSON:

"I don't mind what the time is at all at all. I can always do good work if I've only got an orange to suck and am well wrapped up in a warm ulster."

LORD MURRAY:

At any time, in any place, and under any mental or physical conditions—it does not Marconi difference to me.

MR. F. E. SMITH:

The time that suits me best for work is when I am taking up the time of the court. Then I am always brief, and to the point. I also find the stimulus of a good gallop assists my flow of ideas, enlarges my vocabulary, and generally strengthens my powers of speech.

MISS CHRISTABEL PANKHURST:

I can work well at any time, so long as I am not doing time myself. The environment I prefer is Paris—it is so gay, you know, and—er—feministic. I also find that when I want to do my very best, I must have solid food, and plenty of it.

J. RAMSAY MACDONALD:

I'm not particular about the time so long as I am in the right place. Give me the environment of India. I always do my best work there.

MR. KEIR HARDIE:

What is work?

MR. BART KENNEDY:

When do I do my best work? When I am on the tramp—tramping, and admiring the view. That's when I feel most capable of putting the Westminster Gas House through it.

MR. GEORGE BERNARD SHAW:

My work is always perfect—no matter at what time or under what conditions it is produced—so long as I know I am going to be paid for it. That will be five guineas, please.

JUDGING OUR COMPETITIONS.

ANOTHER STRIKING TRIBUTE FROM A WITNESS.

We have received the following letter from Mr. J. C. Rogers, of 150, East Street, Walworth:—

Allow me the pleasure to thank you, on behalf of myself and a friend, for the way in which you explained matters when we gave you quite an unexpected call on the 17th inst. to see your Football Competition carried on. We were utterly surprised at the way in which the whole business is carried on, and can assure you that we were more than satisfied at the end of our visit. Being competitors in your "Bullets" Competition we also took the opportunity of seeing your judges at work, and were more than convinced that if anyone could but see the whole concern judged they could only come to one conclusion—viz., that only the best efforts can win.

This letter is quite open for you to use if you should care to. Will you be the next person to witness and to testify?

GRAVES 'WORLD'S BEST' CYCLE

The Graves 'Speed King' Modelle de Luxe is the World's Best Bicycle. This is a considered statement, and we earnestly invite you to compare our specification with any other make you like to choose, and then form your own opinion as to the truth of our assertion. Plainly put, we challenge the Cycle Trade to produce a machine of equal merit. The Graves Cycle contains the most recent perfections, and every component is supplied by a maker of world-wide renown, the excellence of whose speciality is admittedly unequalled by any other manufacturer.

WE DELIVER Graves 'Speed King' Modelle de Luxe exactly to specification. Ladies' or Gent's, carriage road to all approved orders for 10/- NOW. The balance is payable in small monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied with the Cycle after full inspection at your own home, and are fully convinced that our offer is absolutely genuine and our claims perfectly true. Every machine carries the Graves Guarantee for 10 years and we allow the fullest approval. If for any reason whatever you are disappointed you simply return the machine, leaving us to pay the carriage, and we will immediately refund every penny of your money without any discussion.

10/-
WITH ORDER.

SPECIFICATION:

REYNOLDS WELDLESS STEEL TUBING
CLINCHER A-WON OR DUNLOP TYRES
PHILLIPS YOKE AND HIRSE BRAKES
STURMEY-ARCHER 3-SPEED GEAR
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BROOKS B.75 PLATED SPRING SADDLE
WILLIAMS CHAIN WHEEL & CRANKS
PHILLIPS DE LUXE PATENT PEDALS
HOFFMANN'S PATENT STEEL BALLS
DOVER HANDLE GRIPS AND LEVER TIPS

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YEARS
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is often very hard to market. There are many men with a Special Knowledge or Aptitude which fits them to occupy Responsible Positions, who somehow cannot get into touch with the opportunities they seek. We have large numbers of High Grade Positions open which call for, and pay for, Special Ability. If you think you can fill one of them—and your record is good—write us to-day—or call.

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£20 A MONTH

operating the NEW MODEL COMBINATION CAMERA. It takes and instantly develops eleven entirely different styles of pictures, including two sizes and four styles PAPER & STCARDS six styles of Tintype Pictures and Brooch Pictures. Requires no experience whatever. Everybody wants pictures. Five Hundred per cent. profit. THE WORLD'S BIGGEST MONEY-MAKER. Small investment secures complete outfit, including Camera, Tripod, and material for 100 pictures. Make money the first day, no matter where you live or what you are doing. Detailed information free, including letters from prosperous operators everywhere.

L. LASCELLE, Manager, 8, Boulevard St., Dept. 316, London, E.C.

Still time to enter this Great Contest.

£1 A DAY FOR LIFE

Offered by **PEARSON'S WEEKLY.**

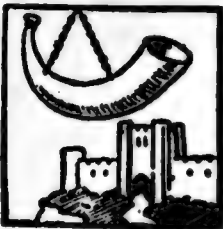
**2nd Prize, £100; 3rd Prize, £50;
and 1,000 Other Prizes.**

The Editor of *Pearson's Weekly* has selected a number of names of railway stations in the United Kingdom. He has handed this list of stations to an artist and instructed him to draw pictures representing the names of the stations. Six of these pictures are printed here, and six will appear each week in *Pearson's Weekly* for some time to come.

The Editor invites you to discover the name of the railway station represented by each picture.

First of all, look at the example. You will see that the picture shows a horn and a castle. The correct answer is *Horn-castle*.

EXAMPLE.



Now write clearly, in ink, under each picture the name of the railway station you think it represents. Only one name is allowed under each picture. Then fill in your name and address. Cut out the pictures and entry form and retain them (together with the others that will appear each week in *Pearson's Weekly*) until the end of the competition. The closing date will be announced later in *Pearson's Weekly*.

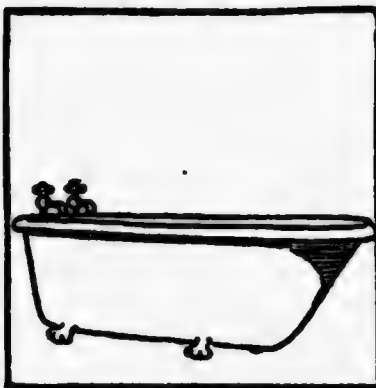
The prize of £1 a Day for Life will be paid to the competitor from whom the Editor of *Pearson's Weekly* receives a complete series of pictures containing all the names correct under the conditions printed in *Pearson's Weekly*. The correct names are those of the actual stations represented by the artist in the pictures. If no competitor sends in a correct list of names, the sum of £1,000 will be paid to the sender of the most nearly correct.

..... Cut Across Here.....

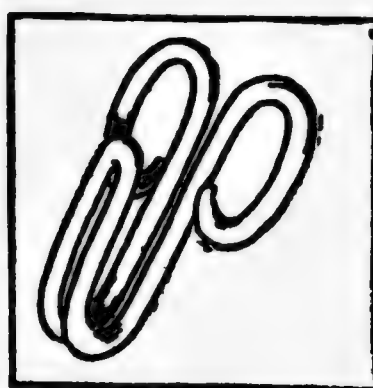
You May Use This Set of Pictures and Entry Form.



1.....



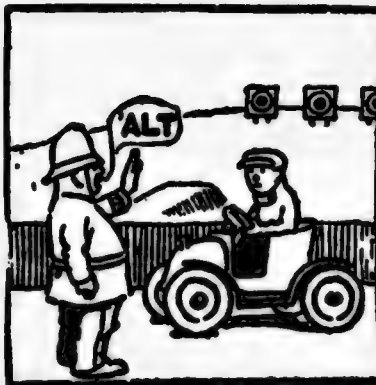
2.....



3.....



4.....



5.....



6.....

ENTRY FORM.

Name.....

K2 Address.....

..... Cut Across Here.....

Fuller particulars for your guidance in winning this immense prize, together with the second set of pictures, will appear in "*Pearson's Weekly*" out on Monday, March 29th.

THE SHIFTING WAIST LINE.

By GEOFFREY THORNTON.

[Our occasional contributor deals, in a humorous manner, with one of the most amazing eccentricities of fashion for the gentler sex.]

'Upon my soul the latest fashion is the limit!

In the old days when I became, what shall we say,—"matey"—with a lady, I knew exactly where to find her face and I was capable of aiming within a very few inches of her waist. But now I have to take careful stock of her before I venture to do anything debonaire. I have to ask her to stand away from me a yard or so, in order that I may study the situation. It is necessary to gauge the position of her waist so that I can at any given moment throw my arms around it.

The fact of the matter is, the waist line is shifting about now. Yes! That is the latest idea.

Even if you make up your mind one evening that Phoebe wears her waist round her knees and practise the knee encircling business, it is ten to one that on the following night she will turn up with a different waist line altogether. You do not notice the change and the result is disastrous.

This has happened to me more than once already.

Phyllis met me the other evening with her waist high up under the arms somewhere. I took careful note of this so that our farewell should be conducted in proper style.

The next night I aimed at the same place. But the whole situation had changed. To my horror, her waist had shifted round her—round her—round her hips! Yes, that's right—her hips!

How was I to know this? She did not warn me the night before or have the decency to send me a telegram about it. Surely it is an important enough matter to warrant the expenditure of sixpence or at least twopence on the telephone.

However, this was a lesson to me. In the case of Priscilla, I made proper arrangements. I noticed the first time we met that she had her waist line somewhere up round her neck, so I said "Look here, if you intend to have your waist in a different place every day, I wish you would drop me a postcard or 'phone me up, will you? It is rather a strange request, I know, but you will not mind. I particularly wish to be kept posted on the subject."

Priscilla agreed to the suggestion, so I gave her my 'phone number.

The next day she rang me up and said "I propose wearing my waist round my ankles to-night, Bobbie; so you will know."

When I received this intimation I called in the office boy and asked him to let me practise diving down at his ankles and throwing my arms round them. By this means I soon became proficient in the art of "upside down embraces." I was prepared for Priscilla.

At the appointed time we met. It was outside Charing Cross Station. No sooner did I spot Priscilla than I leapt at her ankles. Over she went, poor girl, in the mud and I am sorry to say she also went over to Charing Cross Hospital.

She is better, but not out yet.

MADAME KARINA'S BEAUTIFUL HAIR.

HOW SHE MADE IT GROW TWO INCHES IN LESS THAN THREE WEEKS.

The public's appreciation of Madame Karina's splendid dancing is only equalled by its admiration of her beautiful hair, and by special permission we are able to publish a letter written by the famous dancer in which she tells how, by the use of Lavona Hair Tonic, she is able to preserve the natural colour of her lovely hair, and create a wonderful growth. Madame Karina writes:—

"Dear Sirs:—Lavona Hair Tonic is delightful. Anyone who uses it can have no doubt that it does everything you claim for it. For preserving the natural colour of the hair and increasing its growth one could not procure anything better or more pleasant to use. Since I have been using your preparation my hair grew quite a couple of inches in less than three weeks, and it has improved wonderfully in appearance. With all good wishes, I remain, yours faithfully, (sd) Karina."

If you wish to improve or preserve the beauty of your hair—in short, if you want beautiful hair like Madame Karina's—get a bottle of Lavona Hair Tonic, the kind that is so good that your own chemist—a man you know personally—sells it under his personally signed guarantee of satisfaction or money back. Get a bottle to-day under these terms from Boots', Taylor's, Lewis and Burrows', Selfridge's, Harrod's, Whiteley's, Parkers' Drug Stores, Timothy White, or from any leading chemist anywhere. They all guarantee Lavona Hair Tonic.

A REAL FLESH-FORMER "SANAGLOBIN" For THIN and NERVOUS PEOPLE

An interesting, illustrated book entitled "The Causes and Cure of Thinness and Under-development," has just been published by Dr. Penschuck, and will be sent free and in plain wrapper on receipt of a postcard. This book gives valuable information on specific points that will be appreciated by every thin man and woman. It tells you how by means of sanaglobin a permanent increase of weight and strength can be effected.

Sanaglobin is sold in the form of a convenient and palatable tablet 1/14 for 4 tablets and 2/6 for 72 tablets, by Boots, Cash Chemists, Ltd., Birmingham; Hodder and Co., Bristol; Taylor's Drug Co., Ltd.; Timmings White Co., Ltd.; Selfridges; or may be obtained direct and post paid from

THE SANAGLOBIN CO., LTD. (De. t. 59).
115, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C.

"A GODSEND TO OUR HOME"

A Pain-Killer that Never Fails.

In a communication from Mr. T. H. Talbot, 33, Warmsworth Street, Denaby Main, near Rotherham, he says:—"Kephaldol has been a godsend to our home. One night my wife, after tossing about for hours, took two tablets, and in half an hour was in a nice sleep (simply wonderful). I would not like to be without them."

Every user of Dr. Stohr's Kephaldol agrees that for Headache, Neuralgia, Neuritis, Influenza, and all nerve pains it is prompt and unerring in its action. A trial tube from the chemist will convince anyone. It is the one remedy that never fails.

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YOU CAN START WITH ONLY 88 CAPITAL! PROFITS EXCEED \$10 DAILY.

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without making any deductions for telegraphic expenses. Could I say anything fairer or offer more genuine proof? Send for MY GREAT FREE 44-PAGE BOOK. It contains scores of testimonials, proofs, press opinions, past selections, and moreover explains HOW TO MAKE RACING PAY. Don't wait until to-morrow you may forget, and

IT COSTS YOU NOTHING.

so sit down and write now. Simply write your name and address and the words "JOHN BULL" on a postcard, and the book will be sent you by return of post in a PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPE.

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Telegrams: "REGLINCOM, WESDO, LONDON"

Patrick O'Brien's Grand National Sweepstake.

RESULT OF DRAW.

SERIES No.	HORSE.	SERIES No.	HORSE.
A 007741	Ballyhackle.	H 000179	Blowpipe.
A 007645	Feakins III.	J 178110	Regent.
A 006330	Turco III.	K 78994	Ballymacaul.
A 004481	Twelfth Lancer.	L 76034	Thorn Pl.
B 007142	Sunloch.	M 248521	L'Etang La Ville.
B 006384	All Gold II.	N 103480	Rory O'Morr.
C 006021	Mr Halbert.	N 145882	Ballymacdun.
C 007366	Dutch Pennant.	O 046867	Histon.
D 007340	Lord Rivers.	O 050392	Covert Coat.
D 007361	King of Scarlets.	O 054351	Jacobus.
D 007372	Kransdugal.	O 103521	Bloodstone.
E 006367	Great Cross.	O 272368	Via.
E 006205	Convrefen II.	P 166478	Wavelet.
E 006201	Lutteur III.	Q 018587	Durral.
F 005197	Carrigree.	Q 221672	Prosper.
F 005179	Ballinagoul.	R 028102	Diplomatist II.
F 005179	Axe Pin.	R 057591	Remole.
F 005179	Lady Slavery.	S 005231	Our Phillip.
G 007419	Another Delight.	S 104821	Trismon III.
G 007419	Irish Mail.	X 43951	Fettler's Pride.
G 007419	Shannon na Scaub.	Y 95777	Battista.
G 007419	Bahadur.		

As no provision was made for prizes for drawers of non-runners, a special price of £10 will be forwarded to each holder of such tickets.

25 CONSOLATION PRIZES.

SERIES A.—18208; 066890; 124242; 028412; 027756; 252551; 232575.	
SERIES B.—055731; 147572; 022516; 283700; 079723; 035377; 077457; 151375.	
SERIES C.—072066; 251297; 024180; 055824; 178002; 06010; 024405.	
SERIES D.—107571; 188442; 069041; 193031; 258752; 022930; 021901; 071333.	
SERIES E.—056738; 261018; 115839; 13666; 045507; 116123.	
SERIES F.—077277; 272271; 266392; 020047; 027458.	
SERIES G.—063610; 188087; 15836; 252389; 050256; 152708; 033670; 022033; 141674; 062171; 056697.	
SERIES H.—070350; 053178; 178223; 072880; 249070; 034404; 101100.	
SERIES I.—102107; 238501; 152517; 225691.	
SERIES K.—06226; 261233; 241733.	
SERIES L.—03002.	
SERIES M.—052122.	
SERIES N.—081013; 169353; 218233.	
SERIES O.—250027.	
SERIES P.—095120; 144123; 156367; 277593.	
SERIES Q.—037248; 270002.	
SERIES R.—059413; 110064.	
SERIES S.—176223; 220961.	
SERIES T.—01437.	

21 CONSOLATION PRIZES.

SERIES A.—255558; 258650; 168218; 269971; 237758; 032691; 020631; 106154; 271893; 252228; 148547; 058038; 95807; 224290.	
SERIES B.—00687; 026825; 233772; 14935; 023070; 262440; 258090; 116413; 026646; 021177; 077740; 038171; 038747; 050622.	
SERIES C.—021040; 021004; 008900.	
SERIES D.—274039; 02270; 263884; 025823; 024186; 85545; 252023; 022098; 021321; 242099; 033563; 184356; 036897; 252252.	
SERIES E.—250092; 161308; 154337; 050222; 025210; 055866; 084375; 027312; 263117; 067919; 023185; 260372; 054493; 136216.	
SERIES F.—021440; 276880; 024964.	
SERIES G.—058088; 112370; 057527; 038432; 044957; 000990; 026877; 274501; 261789; 260233; 037819; 050609; 052594; 237141.	
SERIES H.—00999; 075751; 274432; 13067; 12045; 248621; 076133; 277525; 00519; 134813; 051463; 071720; 030717; 205516; 252546.	
SERIES I.—051742; 112981; 160850; 039552; 110757; 108332; 022687; 00611; 072489; 02402; 279323; 057500; 03453; 264867; 122224.	
SERIES J.—026890; 282227; 132925; 137275; 022314; 021953; 021054; 027241; 121493; 267319; 279774; 021832; 070371.	
SERIES K.—058635; 194196; 00222; 174088; 023500; 89331; 027028; 215129; 88682; 263034; 043122; 233681; 028700; 250291.	
SERIES L.—106168; 261037; 062612; 062659; 147601; 022719; 102328; 00617; 153433; 13574; 026290; 261487; 170699; 230650; 102727.	
SERIES M.—023420; 243702; 023412; 234793; 250341; 077596; 93251.	
SERIES N.—023398; 209303; 023619; 064181; 054330; 033027; 209429.	
SERIES O.—006042; 290683; 07293; 066691; 261250; 03113; 135191; 070578; 051979; 117996; 123682; 15893; 167900; 077911; 08651; 080567.	
SERIES P.—157573; 181308; 065314; 064390; 022450; 283451; 10444; 174535; 079427; 251003; 068309; 07742; 032280; 184515; 150772.	
SERIES Q.—27511; 162990; 037540; 062390; 05749; 144502; 11185; 021017; 15190; 127541; 021252; 037695; 034943; 174304; 177151.	
SERIES R.—19075; 215414; 060445; 92156; 066092; 062000; 065593; 05670.	
SERIES S.—071830; 139151; 233747; 084516; 13905; 080446; 241100.	
SERIES T.—062218; 062387; 17016; 266992; 036547; 022584; 034303.	
SERIES U.—214771; 168690; 233022; 142846; 247684.	
SERIES V.—04181; 33641; 103194; 96620; 250325; 74346; 127247.	
SERIES W.—27717; 250457.	
SERIES X.—107602; 53311; 196665; 121610; 13079; 182670; 225173.	
SERIES Y.—261256; 37953; 04811; 251595.	
SERIES Z.—244491; 257903; 03088; 230288; 52003; 81313; 79501.	
SERIES A.—282809; 135790.	
SERIES B.—000160; 096133; 177304; 239126; 064746; 171075; 242099.	
SERIES C.—190480; 194107; 063545; 178333; 198135; 053374.	
SERIES D.—170886; 213976; 068394; 000238; 130597; 033383; 129000.	
SERIES E.—102110; 105481; 181932; 018704; 228984; 260038.	
SERIES F.—173799; 162737; 216193; 243671; 252097; 035525; 260958.	
SERIES G.—159050; 021479; 102411; 102434; 228232; 173154; 150446.	
SERIES H.—213382; 232987; 185567; 077490; 152715; 066705; 164483.	
SERIES I.—250851; 210111; 068527; 272012; 232382; 200386; 053730.	
SERIES J.—030310; 127576; 253123; 177022; 106644; 241180; 264555.	
SERIES K.—279781; 231871; 272900; 278504; 236380; 203627.	
SERIES L.—102018; 030991; 161431; 030848; 017934; 011012; 027031.	
SERIES M.—268119; 242234; 037326; 155207; 155736; 186344.	
SERIES N.—221673; 217389; 092562; 065725; 028357; 207371; 209091.	
SERIES O.—269922; 175123; 174190; 258044; 004900.	
SERIES P.—110330; 132444.	
SERIES Q.—07112; 16660; 21825; 79933; 84181; 141339; 82238; 23806.	
SERIES R.—16145; 111169; 33608; 140345; 141121; 79383; 42813; 05129.	
SERIES S.—122213; 123451; 105923; 147841; 122214; 123451; 115879.	
SERIES T.—47454; 115421.	
SERIES U.—40451; 60822; 15399; 73500; 47636.	
SERIES V.—18376; 03907; 12214; 50350; 106311.	

SERIES Z.—117880; 85513; 31727; 61300; 97323; 58490; 55013; 00333.	
SERIES AA.—54620; 10316; 68858; 110367; 17622; 83883; 02331.	
01262; 05863; 07023.	
SERIES BB.—37926; 60002; 70415; 43279; 95827; 52504; 29909; 79007; 39452.	
SERIES CC.—13128; 51331; 48855; 02621.	
SERIES DD.—39766; 119011; 108900; 08203; 42050; 108815; 68315; 106984; 72119; 18930.	
SERIES EE.—07034; 10566; 108023; 55201.	
SERIES FF.—105692; 50571; 02612; 21103; 59989; 17372; 101490; 04402; 33082; 00338.	
SERIES GG.—85535; 41297; 87223; 01173; 60822.	
SERIES HH.—44034; 17838; 93878; 08431; 24538; 87616.	

10s. CONSOLATION PRIZES.

SERIES A.—250613; 148859; 185934; 204779; 103338; 022500; 11533; 171585; 06647; 255965; 260639; 221584; 025597; 027583; 039241; 035918; 055429; 078566; 058201; 262003; 130418; 284409; 186116; 190346; 86804; 023081; 214888; 183373; 266426; 193335; 020251; 027440; 024422; 039478; 158669; 038197; 024189; 024270; 279536; 15981; 14232; 023107; 236017; 289330; 221533; 055964; 055422; 289728; 238285; 12997; 275747; 034665; 03551; 023760; 120948; 250876; 054631; 055372; 218407; 027508; 055015; 057436; 01580; 117446; 050258; 023971; 021002; 148363; 068993; 028779; 264850; 130625; 056066; 270780; 024426; 09762; 036053; 034490; 166614; 252232; 11037; 12993.
SERIES B.—231349; 150268; 034518; 068115; 82768; 246313; 261032; 079748; 257525; 109052; 054382; 039812; 050550; 034970; 039794; 278362; 134437; 037277; 055246; 273752; 055275; 184851; 269451; 257417; 077619; 037543; 150107; 068838; 024795; 055309; 160132; 109913; 057139; 134439; 100976; 84087; 96464; 07540; 250234; 174416; 053241; 16024; 175327; 148801; 246008; 135614; 023634; 82727; 134860; 01527; 213669; 254482; 239687.
SERIES C.—140314; 284475; 074632; 249406; 187227; 200435; 229111; 239167; 13501; 051750; 053481; 072960; 011640; 193204; 024554; 106746; 143325; 276777; 177286; 071526; 044784; 025184; 90109; 190006; 075053; 058230; 113372; 103173; 050710; 133024; 050282; 071892; 06029; 034692; 227930; 039147; 039358; 276603; 070367; 252531; 13027; 067444; 83774; 233087; 179337; 022406; 077031; 06003; 02553; 13060; 026879; 260472; 074854; 17726; 948330; 057399; 03437; 231721; 070848; 025088; 044690; 118522; 053050; 06091; 236289; 070934; 075222; 050440; 070348; 051893; 051131; 227020.
SERIES D.—074448; 276627; 164700; 053395; 021322; 218458; 213813; 075932; 259449; 028047; 060360; 038554; 250270; 067993; 053205; 052600; 133646; 060208; 80160; 037760; 236773; 068067; 042200; 072120; 077039; 042076; 067023; 042570; 058611; 021920; 030441; 214404; 071721; 072198; 053954; 021056; 94559; 073346; 191527; 075989; 022951; 137683; 023917; 121450; 042547; 039779; 053427; 167319; 020227; 273906; 056417; 057601; 054211; 066009; 038349; 042592; 023600; 070159; 056416; 068723; 17936; 072104; 042161; 068127; 133650; 250088; 108487; 115136; 238000; 104935.
SERIES E.—052150; 025108; 281833; 263490; 100980; 210104; 270806; 260047; 053155; 217286; 053513; 025741; 063772; 96078; 214616; 075176; 056106; 025970; 068479; 172474; 058361; 153461; 124891; 045403; 022829; 128178; 271114; 057265; 025726; 020020; 052838; 055866; 056357; 033446; 159165; 03164; 266643; 271393; 073963; 102901; 066911; 059041; 023573; 058395; 073021; 052301; 072582; 263501; 063773; 022453; 264587; 265372; 244354; 12883; 259946; 067462; 01365; 052142; 173500; 80983; 045504; 064465; 272920; 023577; 278699; 256114; 020033; 12502; 170943; 266648; 053153; 251407; 122840; 066563.
SERIES F.—234445; 053958; 022741; 072741; 068240; 062435; 274896; 021816; 071744; 81435; 15130; 063002; 027333; 256807; 252531; 067421; 073525; 067765; 150957; 078552; 038862; 252511; 060931; 050572; 213660; 041737; 04867; 067989; 137100; 184825; 83824; 067708; 050609; 052024; 076900; 057503; 125212; 067937; 81073; 102669; 03440; 070923; 070755; 054076; 05449; 069620; 072874; 170093; 027454; 072789; 072951; 160051; 077902; 025251; 024219; 055618; 253305; 025576; 02591; 278286; 230001; 272571; 067001; 065805; 250200; 053311; 204748; 025503; 280152; 105393; 117630; 78992; 110445; 073353; 227070; 251568; 068872; 050621.
SERIES G.—042309; 164403; 250630; 035531; 251013; 211470; 023730; 222903; 240439; 260488; 060243; 021818; 053156; 023747; 033982; 022440; 249999; 262235; 129077; 164401; 237788; 060084; 216799; 021678; 034319; 060305; 021039; 264249; 286151; 145009; 93799; 035625; 125664; 017649; 050222; 107223; 216631; 036769; 061939; 051355; 274503; 033445; 032986; 050187; 261673; 261901; 113488; 028988; 022567; 259574; 141675; 279203; 069274; 138759; 129936; 037691; 063301; 050330; 039191; 022741; 024678; 057461; 052901; 066537; 039235; 062307; 102141; 268457; 199496; 181310; 168593.
SERIES H.—052431; 073595; 032260; 031392; 024449; 034301; 270632; 284081; 189081; 11692; 267827; 031383; 054708; 148903; 056628; 039035; 032608; 210297; 042287; 057060; 020414; 024559; 034306; 029729; 175813; 034280; 040946; 053275; 053307; 039647; 032405; 190012; 033553; 036708; 250223; 232014; 034491; 078589; 036628; 031317; 027999; 052043; 067531; 065041; 064511; 023403; 050342; 033819; 053294; 037615; 033830; 194727; 032061; 9825.
SERIES I.—03376; 240167; 116748; 139074; 90205; 29157; 74515; 183475; 27736; 155370; 90528; 74544; 38801; 220101; 18934; 74544; 270549; 292791; 102631; 274007; 244573; 01394; 154124; 94153; 226404; 93373; 199068; 168083; 274007; 03378; 34193; 97251; 216141; 227301; 01106; 91107; 01570.
SERIES K.—36432; 117092; 171031; 200778; 52436; 153940; 247027; 05864; 44321; 295084; 233341; 139404; 80361; 139009; 130277; 226213; 274530; 06205; 277432; 159522; 61491.
SERIES L.—242780; 06440; 180071; 211725; 29422; 137754; 277448; 102007; 59464; 113774; 84213; 128353; 83039; 31889; 43332; 250924; 232325; 226692; 240406; 99580; 71603; 202957; 81319; 01582; 53877; 243533; 258380; 46265; 00580; 278005; 163249; 70709; 53383; 11631; 251773; 2221047; 271012; 156596; 131011; 251501; 228046; 251773; 143753; 208615; 054950; 179274; 005803; 022972; 107148; 274324; 207733; 190930; 250869; 280033; 261199; 010207; 229196; 236304; 047791; 198138; 251055; 095211; 228468; 179593; 007083; 184522; 050750; 240482; 263671; 133334; 094060; 204841.
SERIES M.—278942; 240652; 208381; 275395; 206672; 030230; 049011; 187041; 199320; 281035; 052942; 114930; 190824; 072569.
SERIES O.—189261; 043727; 162818; 253171; 081871; 107701; 156743; 202981; 192801; 097620; 183753; 051244; 050885; 136203; 093683; 136203; 113482; 192039; 192440; 033393; 108196; 262918; 132071; 228333; 192950; 027175.

LAYS OF A LOWLY LONDONER.

BY BILL THE 'BUSMAN.

THE LADY AND THE RANK.

I see it stated in the Press,
By certain wise old buffers,
That girls would be a great success
If trained to act as "shuffers."

Right here I beg to disagree;
The sex I much admire,
And that is why I'd hate to see
The darlings ply for hire.

Not that they wouldn't match a car,
I'd pledge my word upon it;
We know how sweet the ladies are
When underneath the bonnet.

But they are flighty, most of them
And very prone to larking;
Myself, I'd like to be near by
When they commence their *sparkling*.

My heart would soon go pit-a-pat,
Such is its weak condition,
If any lady told me that,
She'd started her *ignition*.

For then I'm sure she'd have me firm,
Nor would I struggle much,
For man is nothing but a worm
When in a woman's *clutch*.

She gets him gripped as in a vice,
No protest can he make;
He'll just go calm—that's my advice,
Till she puts on the *brake*.

She's full of love and always kind,
Her dial's her *indicator*;
Count up her good points, and you'll find
She's an *accumulator*.

The which is why I wouldn't change
The habits of the dear;
To set her round the town to range
Would throw her out of *gear*.

I don't want her a cab to drive;
May many more years yet roll
Ere she be moved to try to thrive
With *petrol* as her pet *role*!

I would not see her drive a 'bus
From Ealing to the Bank;
I would not see her any way
Shift from her present *rank*.

Let her remain just as she is;
Let dreams of driving go;
Let man still think she still is his—
For *weal* as well as *woe*!

OUR CRANK'S CORNER.

Once upon a time a youth journeyed away, leaving his old man in great distress and, after many days reached a country where all were wealthy. He was adopted by an old lady, who clothed him in fine raiment and gave him sixpence weekly to spend as he felt inclined. So that in due course he waxed rich and was worth a deal of money. At last he grew homesick and longed for the dear old Roses with the Cottage round the Door. So he girded up his loins, put his wealth in his vest pocket, and journeyed towards his own land. When he arrived at the home of his fathers, the old man rushed out to meet him and fell on his neck. The son gathered him up and carried him indoors, not noticing at the time that his wealth had fallen out of his pocket and dropped down a grating. The old man killed the fatted calf, and later, when he discovered that the wealth was lost, he half killed the prodigal son. Which proves that there is no use locking the stable door after the chickens are hatched.

John Bull says

USE IT,

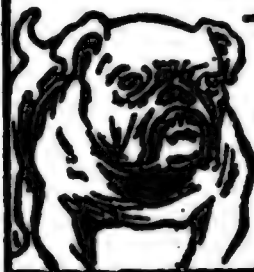
not because it's BRITISH

but

because it's also BEST

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AT ALL CHEMISTS & HAIRDRESSERS.

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ARE YOU A SPORTSMAN?

If so, be sure and order THE RACING ORACLE each week from your newsagent or direct. It is a week-end Guide confined exclusively to TURF TOPICS and SELECTIONS. One copy 1s., 4 weeks 3s., 8 weeks 5s. Posted in plain envelope. On sale every Friday. Subscriptions to Editor, RACING ORACLE, 112, High Holborn, London, W.C.

The Turf Pool Syndicate's Lincolnshire Sweepstake.

RESULT OF DRAW.

The draw for the Lincolnshire Handicap Sweepstake promoted by the Turf Pool Syndicate took place on Thursday, the 19th inst., under the presidency of the Editor of JOHN BULL, assisted by a Committee of Trades Unionists—acting in the interests of Trades Unionist subscribers—and in the presence of various Press representatives and a number of visitors.

In opening the proceedings, the Chairman stated that invitations to attend had been sent to several journals which had recently criticised the methods of the Syndicate, but that apparently none of them had thought it necessary to avail themselves of the opportunity. He read a telegram from Mr. Tom Mann, sent from Tenerife on route to South Africa—asking Mr. Jas Macdonald, one of the Labour representatives present, to act on his behalf, and a similar wire from Mr. Hopkin, the Secretary of the National Amalgamated Society of Coal Porters. A telegram to the same effect was also read from Mr. Purcell, Secretary of the National Furnishing Trades Amalgamation.

The following Labour representatives were present in person:—

MR. JAS. MACDONALD, *Secretary of the London Society of Tailors*;

MR. J. E. GREGORY, *of the Operative Stonemasons*;

MR. WM. COFFEY, *Assistant Secretary of the Bookbinders*;

MR. W. B. PARKER, *of the London Society of Compositors*;

and MR. THOS. BOGIE, *Member of the Scottish Tailors' Association*.

The draw was carried out with the strictest regard to fairness, the Committee being placed in entire control of the proceedings—under the general supervision of the Editor—no member or official of the Syndicate taking any part whatever in it.

At the close of the proceedings the following Certificate was signed by the members of the Committee:—

March 19th, 1914.

We, the undersigned, present at the drawing for the Lincolnshire Handicap Sweepstake promoted by the Turf Pool Syndicate, report as follows:—

(a) The total number of counterfoils of the tickets sold by the Turf Pool Syndicate was checked by us, and the said counterfoils were the only ones participating in the draw.

(b) The equivalent number of discs was also checked by us.

(c) The names of the forty-four horses entered in the Lincolnshire Handicap were written upon cards and placed by us in envelopes.

(d) As each disc was drawn, an envelope containing the name of a horse was opened, the name of the horse read out, and after the number of the ticket and the name of the horse had been duly recorded the ticket was placed in the envelope, which was then sealed up and handed to us.

(e) After the draw, we again checked the discs with the original coupons, and found them correct.

(f) The drawing was conducted entirely by us, under the supervision of the Editor of JOHN BULL, and each individual ticket had a fair and equal chance, and everything was carried out to our entire satisfaction.

(g) The officials of the Turf Pool Syndicate took no part whatever in the draw.

J. E. GREGORY, *Operative Masons' Society*.

J. MACDONALD, *London Society of Tailors*.

WILLIAM COFFEY, *National Union of Bookbinders*.

W. B. PARKER, *L.S.C., Islington Bld. of Gdns.*

T. BOGIE, *S.T. Association*.

The following are the names of the holders of tickets drawing horses:—

B 7069 PERCIVAL KEENE, C. G. Brown, 58, Watergate, Perth.
B 8093 TENNESO, P. Fozz, 5, Cross Street, Earls Barton, Denbury.

C 2275 MAIDEN ELEPHANT, G. Olsen, 16, Greenbank Av., St. Jude's, Plymouth.
C 2929 ST. GALL, W. Fearnay, 114, Darlington Street, Wigan.
C 4978 COAR, T. Tinker, Tolly Hill, near Sheffield.

D 1146 CUREYAN, F. J. Wallis, 14, Moore St., Woodgate, Quilting, Bham.
D 2211 LIGHT BROWN, Richard Banks, 28, Park Road, Blackpool.
D 2812 MONCAYO, S. Golla, Back 10, High St., Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent.
D 7193 SCOTT, J. H. G. H. Mott, H.M.S. Sylva, Devonport.
D 7547 BLENSTONE, J. Byre, 105, Burnland Avenue, Southwick, Sunderland.
D 7607 ALDERSON, H. J. G. Byrne, 25th Woking, Jaram, India.
D 7608 STON BAY, L. H. Barant, Bournemouth, Bristol.
D 9110 SHORT GRASS, F. J. King, 12, Sedan Street, Welworth, S.E.
D 9735 LALL, "Operation," Carr Hill Rd., Gatchhead-on-Tyne.

E 1614 ACHER, A. E. Kiddle, 17, Cammell Street, Stepney, London.
E 3113 MEDIATOR, G. L. Sandy, Box 7, Beaufort West, Cape Province S.A.
E 3474 PERO, R. Ward, 13 Moss, H.M.S. Cockade, G.P.O.
E 4116 LORD ALEXANDER, A. Chapman, 59, Glenmore Rd., Belsize Park, London.
E 4537 SIR BOLD, J. G. H. Lethbridge, Raynham, Mincemaster, Somerset.
E 5406 OSMAN, H. E. Connell, 42, Beak St., Regent St., London, W.
E 6123 SUS YAT, Corp. A. J. Gills, H.M.S. Inverkeithing, G.P.O.
E 7824 SPANISH PRINCE, G. B. Scott, Abington, Poole Road, Bournemouth.
E 9467 PINTADEAU, R. T. Leach, 10, St. Helens Place, London, E.C.
E 9532 CLYMER, J. de Shelly, 26, Wilton Crescent, London, S.W.

F 3264 PREYONANT, Thos. Burke, 24, H. Witherne Terrace, Church Rd., Dublin.
F 3680 JARVIS H. H. E. Taylor, 35, Charn Road, Richmond, Surrey.
F 4143 HICKOCK, Mrs. Nicholson, Beverton, Milnthorpe, Westmorland.

G 2270 BRANCOFF, R. Cohen, 22, Brandling Village, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

G 2034 YOUNG PEGASUS, Jas. Macle, Ythanide, Fyfe, Aberdeen.
G 4123 HENZO, F. M. McDonald, Leadenhall Chambers, 4, St. Mary Axe, E.C.
G 1593 CUTBERT, J. Kelly, 10, Morpeth Terrace, Percy Main, Northumberland.

G 5582 EDWIN ROSE, "North End," Eagle and Hare, Liverston.
G 6444 EBERLETON, A. Cumberland, 10, Market Place, Loughborough.
G 7893 CYKON, F. W. Nettle, 41, Church Road, Crosspool, Sheffield.
G 8732 RADIANE, G. R. Thompson, Lynwood, Ascot, Berks.

H 1162 CHEERFUL, Margaret Sweeney, 511, King Street, Port Glasgow.

I 1540 DUNHOLM, "Scalpa," Broadway, Wrexham.
J 5222 HAPPY WARRIOR, W. Williams, Brooklands, Borewell, Derbyshire.
J 5227 KNOCK-NA-CORRIG, H. E. Telford, Beaumont Hall, Lancaster.
J 9115 OUTRAM, Harry Culmer, Adlington, Corie Castle, Dorset.
J 9760 NASSAU, T. Broome, 10, Malton Crescent, Kenilworth Town, London.

K 3914 LONG SET, David Keogh, St. Gresham Road, Dublin.
K 3291 SIR MARTIN, Miss May, Romanas, Southall, Middlesex.
K 3126 ROYAL WEAVER, Ernest Davis, Elms Club, 180, Kings Rd., Chelsea.

The following are the numbers of tickets drawing consolation prizes:—

100 CONSOLATION PRIZES AT £2 10s. EACH.

A.—2018, 4052
B.—2065, 6037.
C.—1311, 2453, 2264, 2032.
D.—9341, 7613, 7611, 7600, 6557, 6556, 5171, 4513, 3208, 3290, 1781, 5910, 5763, 2737, 1864, 6249.
E.—2124, 6063, 7401, 5721, 5720, 1926, 1570, 1479, 2310, 2785, 4375, 5979, 3835, 7821, 8511, 9429.
F.—3371, 1793, 2744, 3440, 3820, 3085, 3741, 1273.
G.—7791, 7257, 6420, 5557, 4637, 1789, 1979, 3370, 3912, 8416, 9102, 9531, 1232, 8448, 5429, 3438.
H.—3552, 1974, 3453, 2780.
I.—3911, 3183, 3486, 3551, 1371.
J.—1000, 1338, 7191, 5783, 5142, 4106, 3926, 3290, 7633, 8221, 8631, 9070, 9329, 9878, 9634, 8697.
K.—3553, 3254, 3271, 3571, 3907.
L.—1267, 1301, 1376.
O.—7620, 3917, 7346.

250 CONSOLATION PRIZES AT £1.

A.—4959, 2970, 6715, 9939, 8073.
B.—4941, 5091, 9133, 8953, 8016.
C.—1133, 3989, 5134, 2668, 2201, 2089, 6021, 6157, 7100, 8013.
D.—1033, 1183, 1001, 2609, 2829, 3208, 3303, 3654, 4762, 4934, 5011, 5187, 5314, 6904, 6744, 7023, 7397, 7191, 7017, 8118, 9221, 9211, 9661, 6743, 3307, 3307, 3299, 1393, 1393, 1901, 5571, 6045, 6053, 6617, 7188, 7691, 8251, 8320, 9170, 9652.
E.—2651, 2997, 2473, 2137, 5118, 3510, 3759, 3750, 3944, 3962, 3989, 4201, 4513, 4712, 4948, 5991, 6418, 1204, 1479, 1400, 2605, 1801, 3910, 2903, 2709, 2715, 1182, 2202, 2441, 2334, 2022, 1574, 1000, 7590, 8313, 8809.
F.—2032, 2709, 4014, 2708, 2570, 1781, 1830, 1241, 1313, 2851, 3090, 2090, 4731, 4519, 4507, 4302, 4085, 3711, 2033, 1907, 1475.
G.—3548, 2570, 8922, 8518, 8127, 8916, 6703, 7601, 7684, 7051, 6053, 5315, 5955, 5049, 4934, 4315, 4515, 4070, 3520, 3213, 3219, 2792, 3039, 2020, 2508, 2111, 1217, 1887, 9053, 1522, 1000, 3567, 4317, 5701, 5972, 8230.
H.—1017, 4309, 1930, 3539, 1242, 5912, 5193, 5691, 1578, 2267, 2702, 2915, 1249, 2703, 1940.
I.—4913, 3937, 3969, 3759, 3707, 3292, 3309, 4017, 3959, 3112, 3129, 3777.
J.—2093, 3089, 3145, 2870, 2826, 2774, 2081, 2603, 2370, 5177, 5789, 9131, 6941, 2163, 1264, 5839, 6294, 5206, 5422, 5681, 5028, 3433, 4696, 3822, 4261, 3210, 7080, 7631, 8220, 8101, 8609, 8744, 8751, 1563, 9129, 9277, 1004, 6340, 3901, 9797.
K.—1299, 1338, 3414, 3301, 3274, 3035, 3116, 3132, 6283, 6287, 3519, 3694, 3701, 3915, 4018.
L.—1272, 1325, 1371, 1361.
O.—8020, 7983, 7874, 7701, 7559, 7591, 7819, 7513, 7556, 7918.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR!

GEMS FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

"I write asking if you could kindly inform me how, and the best way, I could have my case brought to justice, I am the rightful titled heir to — estates. Since my father's death I have been robbed of my right position. My father's will I have been told is destroyed, which is a lie. The person accused of this forgery is my Father's 3rd (third) wife who is personating as my first mother I am being robbed, and they have some connection in this forgery and swindle, none of them will assist me to fight my case out. So I thought the only way to have it fought out would be to write to JOHN BULL, as there is no other way to have the case proved."

"Would you be so kind as to insert the Bullet Example 'Bristles With Difficulties' in again as I made a Bullet with it last week but I could not afford the 'tanner' I might say that I have not won a prize yet and I was very sweet on my chance, but was forced to miss it. Hoping you will oblige me."

"Re my complaint to you about County Court Judge—and which you refuse to assist us. I am glad to say the general opinion is here that he is not a fit and proper man to administer the law. My brother as you saw from the Press reports I sent you served him with a writ for Conspiracy, Fraud, Forgery and Defamation, none of these charges was Judge — able to deny. Mr. Justice — in staying the action solely on the grounds that he was a County Court Judge, therefore no action could be taken. This is not so, the statute law is when a County Court Judge is not misinformed as to facts he is liable. County Court Judge — was not misinformed as on the Ejectment decree he shows he knew the rent was paid, therefore this was the loophole they thought to get out of it. Law administered like this shows that there is a law for the rich and another for the poor. My reason in writing you was, I thought you were the poor man's friend. Now I have proved otherwise. If Judge — is innocent he has a chance of proving it and let the case proceed. It may be frivolous to him to take away another's property, and living, but it means everything to us. I am sorry I took the advice of a few friends who advised me to write you, as they said it was a fit subject for your paper. I will now only be able to show them your letter of refusal, I thought myself you would not interfere, as some time ago I sent you proof of the misconduct of some solicitors of which County Court — is the outcome, and you would not then do anything, therefore it was not likely you would go against Judge —. However we have suffered this persecution for over 10 years and I suppose we must suffer a little longer, although I hope Justice will come yet."

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published in the following issue.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL of specified date, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number pay the sum of ONE GUINEA in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a report of all the work done.

The following correct claims have been received:—

Mr. J. FAIRWEATHER, 26, Rydal Road, Darlington. February 25th. No. 174,812.

Mr. W. T. SYMONDS, H.M.S. "Vanguard," c/o G.P.O., London. February 21st. No. 659,908.

Mr. S. HARDMAN, 53, Lynn Street, West Gorton, Manchester. February 28th. No. 840,568.

Mr. J. MORRIS, 39, Deaconsfield Road, Seacombe, Cheshire. February 28th. No. 661,873.

Mr. J. BOYD, 78, Taylor Street, Townhead, Glasgow. February 25th. No. 631,170.

Mr. H. W. G. WOODTHORPE, 20, Grosvenor Avenue, Jesmond, Newcastle. February 14th. No. 535,600.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of March 21st:—

004746	158118	317181	505233	839773
008433	166194	319958	524244	833745
034845	182154	350885	560384	846477
047686	203345	372512	593983	916313
071334	209773	394464	618191	945363
093735	215410	406451	624244	968721
107134	229756	427277	677586	991940
120151	245179	446929	703983	A000596
122209	279224	456757	731573	A004832
125377	306103	487310	761130	A008651

The A prefixed to a drawn number indicates it is plus a million. The Fifty Numbers in respect of this week will be announced in our next issue (published on April 1st).

SMOKE OF HERBS
CURES CATARRH

A Simple, Safe, Reliable Way, and
IT COSTS NOTHING TO TRY.

WHILE engaged in the general practice of medicine, Dr. Blosser had many patients suffering from Catarrh whom he was unable to cure, although he prescribed for them by the rules taught in medical books and colleges. He saw that the methods of treatment were wrong, and reasoned that as Catarrh is produced by breathing cold and damp air, so it should be cured by breathing a warm medicated vapour.

After nine years of investigation he discovered a combination of healing herbs, leaves, and flowers which, when ignited and the warm fumes inhaled, would speedily relieve all catarrhal diseases.

This preparation of herbs, leaves, flowers and berries (containing no tobacco or habit-forming drugs) is either smoked in an ordinary clean pipe or smoking tube, or as a cigarette, and by drawing the medicated smoke into the mouth and inhaling into the lungs, or sending it out through the nostrils in a perfectly natural way, the worst case of Catarrh can be eradicated.

It is pleasant to use, and at the same time it is entirely harmless and can be used by man, woman or child.

Just as Catarrh is contracted by breathing cold or dust and germ-laden air, just so this balsamic antiseptic smoking remedy goes to all the affected parts of the air passages of the head, nose, throat and lungs. It can readily be seen why the ordinary treatments, such as sprays, ointments, salves, liquid or tablet medicines, fail—they do not and cannot reach all the affected parts.

If you have Catarrh of the nose, throat or lungs, choking, stopped-up feeling, colds, catarrhal headaches; if you are given to hawking and spitting, this simple yet scientific treatment should cure you.

An illustrated book which goes thoroughly into the whole question of the cause, cure and prevention of Catarrh will, upon request, be sent you by Dr. Blosser, Ltd., Dept. (21 A), 8, Boulevard Street, London, E.C.

He will also send you five days' free treatment. You will at once see that it is a wonderful remedy, and as it only costs four shillings and sixpence for the regular treatment it is within the reach of everyone. It is not necessary to send any money—simply send your name and address and the booklet, and free trial package will be sent you immediately.

On sale at Boots' Cash Chemists, and other chemists' shops.



The black in above cut shows the parts reached by Dr. Blosser's Remedy, viz: the whole disease, not a spot, nook or corner escapes. It goes to G. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. EVERYWHERE, and it wipes out the disease wherever it goes.

THE "GUILDHALL"
Sterling Silver 21/-
Warranted 10 Years.

The "GUILDHALL" is essentially the Business Man's watch because of its absolute accuracy—it will not vary a minute a month.

The neat appearance, compact size and wear-resisting qualities of the "GUILDHALL" have made it famous among Business Men as being worth double the money.

Specification:—8-plate, lever movement, compensation balance, keyless, jewelled in 15 holes, half-marked Sterling Silver Cases.

MONEY RETURNED IF NOT SATISFIED.
If you are not satisfied with the "GUILDHALL" watch, return it to us within seven days, and we will refund your money in full without question or quibble. The number of these watches is strictly limited and orders should be despatched immediately.

TESTIMONY.—Suffolk, February 6th, 1914.—"Gents:—I bought a watch from you seven years ago. It has not lost a minute nor required repairing. Accidental immersion in water did not harm the watch, and although this happened two years ago, it is as good as ever. I might mention that it is worn every day."

Post a card to-day for our New Jewellery Catalogue.

FRANKLAND'S
(Established 1855.)
GOLD SMITHS AND JEWELLERS,
2, LUDGATE CIRCUS,
LONDON, E.C.

The House for Engagement Rings
Catalogue and size-card sent post free.

RESULT OF

H. DIAMOND'S GRAND NATIONAL DRAW.

The draw for the above took place on March 11th, and was controlled by ten of our subscribers and four prominent Press men—including "John Bull's" special representative.

£1,000 FOR THE WINNER

£200 for the Second

£100 for the Third

£10 FOR EACH STARTER.

£5 FOR EACH NON-STARTER.

NAME OF HORSE.	TICKET NO.	PURCHASER'S NAME AND ADDRESS.
Alfred D.	M 25149	W. E. Burrows, 260, Denman Street, Nottingham.
Another Delight	B 341460	J. Stanley Yearsley, 21, Soho Street, Salford, Manchester.
Ayle Pin	B 311022	E. Parham, 40, Clarence Road, Kentish Town, London, N.W.
Babalar	P 119047	W. C. Smith, P.O. Box 331, St. John's, Newfoundland.
Ballingpool	R 05760	R. J. Widdowson, Riverdyn, Bulwell, Notts.
Ballyhack	S 60000	G. Parfitt, 83, Princess St., Abertillery.
Ballymacad	A 135488	J. Sinclair, 4, Home Terr., Edinburgh.
Ballymacdon	S 24709	Wm. Lewis Borden, 8, Brook Street, Barry Dock.
Battista	B 252259	F. P. Ayling, Tervick Mills, Regate, S/x
Blackstone	V 80547	Mrs. J. Humphreys, 123, North Road, Porth.
Blow Pipe	A 180086	W. L. Cowley, P.O. 121, Gwelo, Southern Rhodesia.
Comet Lad	E 51146	O. Waterman, The Pyrotechnists, Nunhead Green, London.
Carriage	F 00451	J. White, 30, Elswick Row, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Castleman Lad	B 01680	H. Desmond, Serowe, Bechuanaland, South Africa.
Cavero	P 45066	J. Clayton, 10, Charles Street, East Toronto.
Chilgen's Pride	A 130210	J. Alderwood, West Road, Oakham, Rutland.
Convent H.	B 23238	S. Holland, Ste., 2 Mess, H.M.S. Minclau, China.
Convent	G 35756	Chas. Williams, 40, Stanley Street, Middlesbro'.
Edmund H.	P 104025	J. Cook, 9, Talma Terrace, Caeran, Nr. Bridgend.
Durain	B 352323	Marshall Cragg, Commercial Hotel, West Bank, East London, South Africa.
Duch Pennant	Y 70103	Wm. Watson, Sexton, Ashington Church, Northumberland.
Dysert	B 43449	Rd. Phillips, 3, Bryn Cott., Cwmillery.
Earless VII.	C 00353	G. Ruck, Little Yarkhill, Nr. Henford.
Father's Pride	B 202028	W. Tunnaine, 11, Havebeck Street, Canterbury.
Flurigan	B 257541	H. H. Friatt, 21, Bishop Road, Bishopston, Bristol.
Great Cross	M 03137	T. Richardson, 34, Norton Bridge, Fennypridd.
Goldend	A 332507	J. Holly, 60, Penybont Rd., Abertillery.
Luganant	S 149172	W. Wilson, 14, Jubilee Terrace, Annfield Plain.
Helen	A 78106	Horace Clark, Droxford, Hants.
Hish Mail	A 08490	T. Rose, Workshop College, Notts.
Jacobs	R 07263	T. Baggis, Canteen, Alexandra Hospital, Cosham.
King of the Scots	U 26307	Miss S. James, 50, Charles Street, Berkeley Square, London, W.

NAME OF HORSE.	TICKET NO.	PURCHASER'S NAME AND ADDRESS.
Kransfugl	A 153023	R. H. Waygood, Kenross House, Alma Street, Abertillery.
Lady Slavey	B 02330	J. Thomson, 92, Dale Street, Bridgeton, Glasgow.
Lamentable	A 05191	Elizabeth Menzies, Usher Town, Accra.
L'etang la-ville	M 40704	P. Pointer, 20, Potter Street, 66, Homer Street, Liverpool.
Longchamps	M 03302	Mrs. C. Orme, 1, Cambridge Road, Great Crosby, Liverpool.
Lord Rivers	B 115770	J. W. Ward, 152, New Street, Gillingthorpe, Nr. Barnsley.
Lutteur III.	A 329195	J. T. Tarlett, Box 161, Port Elizabeth, South Africa.
Maybo	A 170256	P. Luckhurst, 55, Barratt Street, Easton, Bristol.
Merry Land	U 45237	P. Hunter, 347, John Williamson Street, South Shields.
Never Fear	F 49926	J. Lindsay, 45, School Street, Markinch, Fife.
Our Philip	B 01950	J. Hoof, The Roost, Dover Road, Sandwich, Kent.
Periwad	P 2968	Mrs. E. E. Beverley, "The Villa," Novello St., Felling, London, S.W.
Pompador H.	B 91716	J. Wilking, 11, Hoyle Street, Old Belle Vue St., Gorton, Manchester.
Prospect	B 208026	M. E. Horn, Beechwood, Padliham, Lancs.
Purdy-burn	L 01183	D. Grimmond, 8, Eastern Terrace, Mews, St. Georges Rd., Brighton.
Regent	M 02065	Mr. Kerr, Station Rd., Netley Abbey.
Romelo	A 51349	J. Berquest, 178, Beauford St., Liverpool.
Rory O'Moore	Z 70157	G. Halliday, 87, Pootry St., Clapton Park, London, N.
Sham Na Seamb	X 49028	W. Peacock, Gate Inn, Swansick, Derbyshire.
Simon Pure H.	B 177771	Geo. W. B. Widger, Fountainhead Cottage, Simla, W.C. India.
Sir Halbert	B 03980	E. S. Drew, Band, 1st Welsh Regt., Chakrata, India.
Sunloch	A 37416	J. C. Mackey, 47, Farland Place, Sunderland.
Thowpin	V 10751	J. Mullins, 97, Hugh St., Castleford, Yorks.
Thrakdon	T 26188	J. Wilson, 29, Albert St., Edinburgh.
Tranen III.	Z 82050	J. Howie, 65, Elgin St., Dunfermline.
Turco III.	A 100000	P. R. Randall, 42, St. Anlyn's Road, Portlaine, Sussex.
Twelfth Lancer	M 71859	R. B. Forbes, Skene Place, Birkhill, Scotland.
Viz	A 131900	P. G. Stone, 42, Mess, H.M.S. Minclau, China Station.
Wavelet	B 40800	B. Templeton, 43, Westburn Street, Greenock, Scotland.
Wilkinstown	C 61820	E. Thorley, 64, Miles Bank, Hasley, Sams.

H. DIAMOND, Lucerne, SWITZERLAND.

Bull's Eyes.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—

Isn't Sir Herbert becoming quite a family Tree?
Isn't it good of the Kaiser to allow his subjects to breathe?
Has the Duke of Devonshire only just realised the value of books?

Have they reserved space in the London Museum for the Party System?

Were the kisses of the girl strikers at Millwall sold at "face value"?

Won't the Russian Army increase make Germany "look round"?

Didn't the suffragettes show ingratitude in smashing Mr. McKenna's windows?

Did Lord Chas. Beresford say to Winston Churchill, "If I were in your place—"?

At Stratford, a man has been sentenced for biting a publican. Was it his car?

Wives are scarce in Labrador. Here, the bachelors make themselves scarce.

The woman who can "take care of herself" is not always the best preserved.

Green wigs were in evidence at the Chelsea Arts ball. Just the thing for grass widows.

A Texas woman of thirty-five has obtained her fifth divorce. She is evidently a trying person.

"Baby Tied to its Mother," reads a headline. This is reversing the usual order of things.

A women's football club has been formed at Burnley. The boys will attend to study "form."

The increase in the number of London lunatics is declining. Does this explain Bethnal Green?

The Swankers Club is stated to have a membership of 20,000. It has plenty of scope for extension.

A Tottenham woman left her husband because he would not speak to her. Dad was "mum."

A New Jersey street newspaper hawker has written a musical comedy. It should be "extra special."

Mr. Henry Makins, who left £500,873, seems to have proved that there is something in a name, after all.

The Daring Film Company has been registered. In these days of censorship one must admire their pluck.

The Bishop of London's Sunday Closing Bill extends the traveller limit to six miles. This is going a bit too far.

Chicago predicts that in a few years' time steak will be 4s. a pound. We shall take a (short) cut from the joint.

A Colorado judge granted twelve divorces in ninety-six minutes. The marriage tie must be a slip-knot there.

A London journalist is said to have insured his newspaper cuttings for £3,000. No wonder it is called "copy."

Eggs containing a pair of stockings are among the Easter novelties. We prefer stockings containing a pair of 1-eggs.

The Vicar of Brixton has written a new play called "The Carpenter." We hope the audience won't be a deal board.

A Hyde householder complains that he can get no visitors because he lives at No. 13. Doesn't the rate collector call?

"There are some advantages of being on the Bench," says Mr. Justice Darling. We should prefer it to the dock, anyway.

The Willesden beggar who was wearing copies of the *War Cry* for warmth apparently couldn't afford the *Winning Post*.

A new sun spot 10,000 miles in diameter has been discovered. This may account for the measly appearance of the sun lately.

Votes in the by-election in North-West Durham cost five shillings each. One of the candidates got no return for the money.

Printer's Pie.

(THE WORK OF THE "DEVIL.")

"GLOUCESTER CITIZEN," March 7th, advertisement:—

"Excelsior Glass and China Store. Just purchased for the XMAS SEASON a grand assortment of tea and dinner sets."

"LIVERPOOL ECHO":—

"To a question thus directly put, she had NO REPLY, and the very feminine voice in which she ANSWERED was sufficient: she had disclosed her sex."

"THE DIAMOND LIBRARY":—

"He hit out blindly at the offending object, and sent the water jug CRASHING NOISELESSLY across the room."

"WEEKLY WELCOME":—

"Well, Jim, it's good to see you again. Got the car ready? . . . It was standing just within EARSHOT, LOOKING ROUND TIMIDLY."

"UNION JACK LIBRARY":—

"Suddenly, as a man rousing himself from a dream, Dan Tremar started. The HANDS HOLDING the cylinder trembled slightly, and he passed his DISENGAGED HAND over his brow."

"KENTISH INDEPENDENT AND KENTISH MAIL" report:—

"He had known deceased go out when the SUN was 118 IN THE SHADE."

"CHELTENHAM ECHO":—

"Deceased was twice married and he LEAVES HIS SECOND WIFE A WIDOW."

"DAILY EXPRESS" advertisement:—

"Newquay (Cornwall). To let furnished SEVEN-ROOMED BATH, 1 gn. O.P., Box 8, 263, *Daily Express*, St. Bride-st. E.C."

"ISLE OF MAN TIMES" advertisement:—

"TWO-DAYS Sale of Furniture in the Gymnasium. TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, March 24th AND 25th."

"ARGUS" (Eastbourne):—

"St. Patrick Night's Dance at EASTBOURNE. A St. Patrick's Night dance, arranged by the band of the 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment, was held at the Middle-street Drill Hall, HASTINGS, yesterday evening."

"HERTFORDSHIRE MERCURY":—

"All the downstairs rooms were in a state of great disorder and a number of articles were missing, and it was evident that the burglars finding the ROOM of each DOOR locked on the outside had gone out of one room by the window and broken into another by the window."

"ROTHERHAM EXPRESS":—

"Hearty at Ninety. Mrs. Jackson, who resides at Top Stubbin, celebrated her 90TH BIRTHDAY on Wednesday. . . . She has been A WIDOW OVER 90 YEARS."

"WORCESTER DAILY TIMES":—

"The Chairman moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, referred in APPRECIATIVE TERMS to the DEATH of Mr. A. Usher, who was one of the directors."

"PEOPLE'S FRIEND":—

"Oh, I remember it, right enough. You were very kind to a stranger who has NO credentials to offer—though he has FEW now."

"MANCHESTER GUARDIAN" advertisement:—

"Derbyshire. To sell, handsome, well-built and superbly semi-detached MOUSE. . . . Apply J. E. Collier, Auctioneer, New Mills."

"WALLINGTON AND CARSHALTON WEEKLY RECORD" advertisement:—

Lost. "LEFT in Sandy-lane Tram Shelter on Monday morning. Please communicate with No. 668, Record Office."

Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published in this column. Should more than one competitor call attention to the same blunder, the amount will be forwarded to the sender of the first letter opened. In the case of newspaper cuttings sufficient must be forwarded to identify the name of the journal and date of issue. Envelopes to be marked "Printer's Pie" in the left-hand top corner.

Don't Forget the Pen Coupon on Page iii. of Cover.

MORE MAMMOTH CASH PRIZES FOR FOOTBALL.

£1500

FOR ALL-CORRECT COUPON



£500

IF ONE ERROR ONLY

**NO
FEES**

£150

FOR NEXT
BEST FORECAST

ANOTHER
SINGLE WEEK
CONTEST

£50

FOR NEXT
HIGHEST CORRECT

**NO
GOALS**

£25

FOR A
MAUVE
COUPON

Another single week contest this time. We are maintaining last week's increase in prizes. In addition to £1,500 for an all-correct Coupon and £500 if one error only—the huge sum of £225 must be won. The matches selected are to be played on Saturday, April 10th, the contest closing Friday, April 3rd. So there is no time to lose. Fill in your forecasts now. Scottish readers may now enter.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO

is to forecast the results of the League games to be played on Saturday, April 10th, given on the entrance form on page 2 of our cover. Before making your forecasts read carefully the new method of marking the Coupon, as explained on the coupon itself.

£1,500 FOR AN ALL-CORRECT COUPON.

The huge sum of £1,500 will be paid to the competitor sending us an entrance form containing correct forecasts of all the matches given which are played to a finish. If, owing to bad weather or other causes, a match is not completed, it will be disregarded. Thus,

ABANDONED MATCHES MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.

Should it happen that no Entrance Form be received giving the whole of the correct results, £250 will be paid to the competitor whose coupon shows only one error only. In the unlikely event of neither the £1,500 nor the £500 being won, we shall in any event pay the cash prize of £150 to the sender of the most correct forecasts, whatever the number—even if only 8 or 10, and £50 to the sender of the next best. In addition we shall pay a cash prize of £25 for the most correct forecast sent on a Mauve Coupon taken from *Mary Bull*. This

method of marking the coupon safeguard the interests of our competitors in every way and render even an attempt at fraud impossible. The risk of a coupon being overlooked is totally eliminated.

Our Football Competition department is now under the personal supervision of "McIV," the well-known football writer, late of the "Morning Leader" and "Daily Chronicle."

£25 "MAUVE" COUPON PRIZE.

A Special prize of £25 is again offered for the best forecast on a "Mauve" Coupon taken from "*Mary Bull*." Thus by using a "Mauve" Coupon competitors have the opportunity of winning not only the £1,500, or the £500 or £150, and £50, but also an additional £25. Being a single-week contest, there is one Mauve Coupon only—in this week's "*Mary Bull*," on sale Friday, March 27th.

SCOTTISH READERS MAY ENTER.

Address: JOHN BULL, 28, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. Mark envelope, "Football Contest No. 17." Closing date, Friday, April 3rd.

The RULES and
COUPON

will be found

on

PAGE 2 of COVER.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 42 where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. Over 5,000 prizes are to be won this week. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered for the best "Bullet" received, together with other substantial cash prizes.

JOHN BULL £50,000 DERBY SWEEP.—Will readers please bear in mind that we cannot either supply or reply to applications for books of tickets for this sweepstake; nor can we act as agents for receiving and forwarding money for tickets. All communications must be addressed direct to Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, Switzerland.

THE JOY WHEEL.

BY JOYFUL JAMES.

[Joyful James has no mission in life beyond that of manufacturing mirth and merriment. He is the irresponsible, irrepressible Jester at the Court of King Laughter.]

Life is a Joy Wheel ride.

We cling, and we clutch and we grip,

A whirr and a whizz! Then we glide

Off the wheel with a slithery slip.

Our life is all pleasure to-day,

But comes the awaking to-morrow,

And the ride that is joyful and gay

Has its finish in pathos and sorrow.

Land of the Wooden Nutmeg, Land of the Quick Divorce,
Land of Kentucky Colonels and Philadelphia Lawyers, I salute thee! Long may Ellis Island intervene to save thy virtuous homes from the contaminating influence of the sinful Britisher. Columbia, all hail!

Do not tell me that you have never raised a hand to strike your wife. If you have not done so, you do not belong to the British upper-class, whose habit it is to drive home persuasion to their spouses by the application of the fist.

At least, so says an American writer who lately has "booked" his views on the beastly ways of the Britisher. He must be right because he hails from Philadelphia, whence

come the lawyers. We seem in this case to have squeezed the Eagle till it screeched, for our truthful Philadelphia maintains that it is quite the thing amongst our better class folk for the husband to land his wife a "kosher" in the eye even in the presence of guests. (Excuse me a minute whilst I run into the dining room to kick the missus.) I feel better now, hence a poem of pain.

The member of the Upper Ten
Comes home to dine at eight,
And raises quite a rumpus when
For grub he has to wait.
He cusses this, he cusses that,
Soup, fish and apple pie,
And aims a champagne bottle at
His wife, and blacks her eye.

It is not so in Yankee-land,
Where virtue rules the roost.
Aristocrats in Swanky-land
Their piety can "boast."
For, if they're tired of wife and home,
They steer a proper course;
Off to Dakota they may roam
And buy a cheap divorce.

Yes, no occasion to persuade your wife with a poker, or bring her to her senses with an upper-cut. Columbia, all hail! but you have got "some" lawyers.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

AUTHORS and ARTISTS submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.

Legal Inquiries must be addressed to the Legal Editor, 98, Long Acre, W.C., and must be accompanied by a Postal Order for a Shilling.

GENERAL.

F. G. (Twickenham) informs J. A. I. that the state of the weather on December 4th last, between 5 and 8 p.m., was "storm of wind and rain all the evening." What a memory!

H. J. (Ingleton).—We have said that the impending retirement of Mr. Clough, M.P. for Skipton, will "rid the House of Commons of one of its most repellent personalities." You have put it into verse, but you won't mind our preference for prose.

C. W. (London, S.W.).—You wonder whether Lord Newton "in considering the stopping of the trivial annoyances caused by money-lending circulars has thought of the possible ruination of the thousands of people employed by money-lenders and consequently to their families." We suggest you should write and ask him.

H. T. (Manchester) and OTHERS.—Our opinion about Stuart and Ward, 284a, Scovell Road, S.E., the alleged lost-hair dealers, is that it is your money they want.

A. C. R. (Mickleton).—You tell us that you sent the Sovereign Supply Stores, 435, Strand, W.C., last December, one guinea for a £2 5s. 6d. bale of blankets, and you have had nothing from them since except an acknowledgment. We are afraid you had better write the amount off as lost, as the principal in the concern is now in gaol.

L. H. (Heatley).—We don't take any interest in the "ambitious marine, who saw what he shouldn't have seen."

J. C. (Limerick).—It is an obvious advertising trick on the part of the British Supply Co., of Station Road, Ilkeston, and we advise you and others not to be imposed on.

F. G. J. (Leytonstone).—You wish us to "ask the now notorious Vicar of Galleywood what is the shortest time that may elapse between marriage and the birth of a child in order to avoid his condemnation of the mother." We hereby ask; but what in the world does such a parsonic pharisee matter?

B. M. (Clapham).—"A good painter can whitewash any colour except Bethnal Green." Even though he is a master man, we suppose?

A. J. B. (Vancouver).—It is an old story now, that though Marie Lloyd was billed in your untremendous village as the "Idol of England," the "Mayor, hearing rumours of hot stuff coming, ordered her off." Is your mayor's name Stiggins?

T. W. G. (Penrith).—The Vicar of Penrith has evidently a sad view about the youthful shop assistants of your town; but perhaps people do commence business in a small way, your way?

"READER" informs us that the billiard-table at the Passmore Edwards Sailors' Palace, Commercial Road, E., "is a disgrace to the place." Shall now look upon it as a spot barred.

T. L. (Brixton).—Please don't send us samples of your fashion drawings. They might amuse Mary, but they would be more likely to annoy us.

K. C. W. (Llandudno Junction).—The youth who picked up and returned to its owner a purse containing £25. and was rewarded with the colossal sum of threepence, should now have a clear idea of the rate at which the Welsh value honesty.

"BULLETTIER" (Walsall).—Any young man who is fool enough to have dealings with matrimonial agents and to pay them large fees, ought, in his own interest, to be lodged in a lunatic asylum, whilst older idiots deserve to be placed in the lethal chamber.

M. O. I. (Douglas, I. of M.).—Have nothing to do with I. A. Hardy and Co., the "United Kingdom, Colonial and Foreign General Accountancy Offices," Chancery Lane, W.C.

F. W. (Croydon).—Don't write us any more silly letters; or, if you must, don't throw your inverted commas about so recklessly. We have quite enough to try our eyes without that.

C. E. A. (Co. Durham).—Judging from the experiments we have seen, we should say that mesmerism is more likely to cause than to cure an impediment in the speech. But take comfort. Better an impediment in the speech than in the truth—a complaint common amongst Party politicians.

B. B. B. (Barking) suggests that we ring a bell on the roof of our offices every week to announce the selection of the winning "Bullet." It would be too suggestive of the old Newgate executions.

"Bromo" (Aldershot).—If the London Travel Bureau guarantee you a situation on arrival in Australia (provided you book your passage through them) that should be sufficient to warn you off. They are too sanguine by half. Unemployment is almost as rife in Australia as in Canada just now.

F. A. S. (Northampton).—We almost regret our introduction of the JOHN BULL Fountain Pen when we receive such lines as the following:—

What a treat the JOHN BULL pen to write is,
A pleasure to write with, it quite is;
I've used so much ink
My wife seems to think
I suffer from ap' pen' dicitis,
What a nib F. A. S. must be!

J. C. (Great Dunmow).—We think you must have been "out" when you sat down to write your letter. Try again when you are sober. Then we may be able to understand what you are driving at.

"RECHADITE."—Afraid to give your name and address, like most of your breed? We say again, that the closed public house in Scotland means the big booze at home on Sunday. "Reformers" of your type have done much more to encourage secret drinking than the grocer's licence has.

G. W. (Longham).—We should not trouble about the piffing criticism of your fancy-dress ball that appeared in the *Bournemouth Graphic*. We should judge by the tone of it that it was written by a very junior reporter who had not been invited.

H. S. (Cardiff).—The law authorities are now taking steps to cheapen and facilitate divorce for poor suitors.

J. H. T. (Blarney) takes the trouble to tell us that when any reference to Keir Hardie appears in JOHN BULL, he is reminded of the well-known picture, Dignity and Impudence. Keir Hardie representing Dignity. J. H. T. has chosen a most suitable town to live in.

L. S. W. (Scarborough).—Very pleased to hear your friend got his 2s. deposit back from the Alhambra Warehouse Co., Bradford. He is one of the fortunate ones.

T. K. B. (Glasgow).—We are afraid you have no sense of humour. But then, see where you live!

W. P. (Barrow-in-Furness) sends us the following advertisement cut from the *North Western Daily Mail*: Good Home for two Christian Men; bath, good and reliable FEMALE. Address, etc. "Christian men" appear to get all the fat.

"HORNSBY."—In our opinion the Children's Rescue and Holiday League, of 10, Gray's Inn Road, W.C., is not a desirable charity to subscribe to. According to one of their recent balance-sheets, they spent as much as £62 in collecting and distributing charity to the value of £51.

"ENQUIRER" (Bournemouth).—So far as we are concerned, the City and Counties Publishing Co., of Narrow Lewins Mead, Bristol, is a dark horse.

"A NON-HITTER."—Competitors can, for sixpence, send in two "Bullets," each constructed from different examples, or both constructed from the same example.

"DISGUSTED" (Newbury).—Your account of the tribulations of the local Temperance Band was amusing reading. How do matters stand now?

G. W. (Grimsby).—What is this we hear about jugs of cold water being thrown over patients in a local infirmary to make them get up in the morning?

A. F. P. (Kirkcaldy) is a clerk, but because of the rise in the price of pork is thinking of starting a piggery. He says he has had very little experience in this line, but thinks with our help he could "manage along alright." Does he want us to scratch the pigs' backs, or what? If so, there is nothing doing.

T. C. (Grantham).—The Natural Cancer Cure Co., of Lebeon Park, Twickenham, is a quack concern.

"TRADER" (Umtata).—The answer to your inquiry is that *Mary Bull* is published nine days before the date appearing on the numbers, and JOHN BULL only two days ahead.

C. A. A. (Edmonton, E. Canada).—"How I beg you to give this corrupt-as-hell city a thorough exposure." You have conscientiously relieved us of the necessity.

Three words win £1,000. See Result of Our £1,000 "Bullets" Offer. Page 43.

E. L. O. (Swadlincote).—We are not sufficiently interested in the domestic affairs of Yankee millionaires to know where the son of Mr. Finlay, the New York banker, is undergoing treatment for consumption. Why not inquire of father?

T. D. (S. Kensington).—We could not think of giving you any information about night clubs. Why, you might join one, and get into the habit of coming home with the milk in the morning! And whom would your wife blame? Us, of course!

F. T. R. G. (Cape Colony).—Glad we were the means of saving you from the cunning trap of Hugh McKean, the mail order trickster. Since you wrote you have doubtless read the Epitaph we have prepared for him.

"CONSTANT READER" writes: "Don't you think it about time that a stop was put to the Bonus Stamp trading? We have thought it for years, and years, and years."

W. P. (Sunderland) delivers himself of the following epigram: "A fault-finding woman can always find a fault to find fault with." So can a fault-finding man, for that matter.

"A SPORT" (E. Dulwich) suggests that each participant in our Football Competitions might send a penny stamp for our "Human Documents" Fund. They may send as much as they like. We shall not reject the smallest contribution.

"ANOTHER JOHN BULL" (Mansfield).—Take no notice of the bluff of the Royal Card Co., of Kew. They prey on the simplicity of children—a sufficiently low-down trick, in all conscience.

"BLUEJACKET" (First Flotilla) forwards us a copy of an Admiralty Order, which states that before any application for leave on account of a family bereavement can be entertained, the man must show some authority. But we have known people who have "lost" two mothers, four fathers, and seven grandmothers, the funerals taking place on football match days.

D. G. (Widborough Green).—We have exposed the British Clothing Club a thousand times. Sue them if they have stuck to your 20s. and won't send you the clock.

II. P. (Brighton).—It will doubtless interest, if it does not altogether amuse, Captain Walter Rand—"the Yankee Piccan Punisher," as you call him—when he receives the parcel of cuttings from JOHN BULL which you have sent him. You might send this along to him as a sort of make-weight.

"CONSTANT READER" (Southampton) wants to know "the colours of the flags" used by several regiments in engagements in South Africa. The answer is, no colour whatever—because flags are not now carried when troops go into action.

II. F. (Stepney) tells us that several boys were kicking a football, and it crossed his path, whereupon he kicked it out of his way. A police constable happened to be passing and ran him in. Result, fined 1s. We think the bobby might have been better employed.

A. T. (Shemeld) asks if we could tell him anything about Robert Barclay, 35, Breams Buildings, Chancery Lane. Yes. He calls himself a missing heir-tracer, and is prepared to take all the fees which come his way.

TOMMY A. (Worcester Regt.) describes what he terms "the callous behaviour" of an officer. While on route march, a soldier fell down in a faint, and the Captain told the bugler to sound the "Last Post" over him. Unfortunately, we are unable to say whether the officer did act in a callous manner until we know the effect of the wail of the bugle. The "faint" may have been a "feint."

"PER MEADIER TERRAIN" (Portsmouth) totally disagrees with the attitude we took up on behalf of Private Lewis, who was tried by court-martial for playing football when on furlough. "God help the Army," he says, "if the day has arrived when a soldier may please himself whether he obeys an order or not." We should say that in such a matter everything depends upon the order—that is to say, whether it was a legal one.

E. L. (Harringay Park) complains that a number of children quite recently contracted scarlet fever at school. Children do this sort of thing, even in the best of regulated families. Harringay is not the only suburb to have such an epidemic.

J. T. (Plymouth).—When "Macpherson Bros.," of 16, Picardy Place, Edinburgh, advertise that they lend money at an "easy rate" without inquiries and troublesome loan office formalities, they are evidently lying.

R. E. H. (Hull).—We have no confidence in music publishers who will only publish a song on the terms you mention, and, to be candid, very little in the success of the song.

"CONSTANT READER" (Richmond) asks if a deserter from the Royal Navy during the reign of the late King Edward was entitled to a free pardon on the coming to the throne of King George—and if so, does the pardon grant him all the civil rights he had before he joined the service? We give it up; we have tried to solve the problem of this "free pardon" on many occasions, and are inclined to think that it was all bogey.

"WILKIE" (S. Hampstead).—"Will you tell me why the Directory calls a road with the sun on it full all day 'the North Side,' and the above side with no sun on it except at the back the 'South Side'?" Ask Hobhouse.

L. TUTT (Swindon).—"Teacher: 'Now, boy, which are the more destructive—sparrows or worms?' Boy: 'Please, mum, I've never had worms.'" Tut, Tut!

H. S. (Fife).—"What makes us smile is how you do show these lords, landowners and other wild beasts up." Keep smiling.

"FOGGIERODDIE" (Aberdeen).—We had already heard the finale of the heated argument between the Scot and the Irishman in the bar of the hostelry. "Scot (departing): 'To hell with the Pope.' Irishman (following him to the door): 'To hell with Harry Lauder.'"

H. W. N. (Scilly Isles).—Why didn't we mention that the American railway company from which Lord Claud Hamilton has obtained his new general manager hasn't paid any dividend for years? Why didn't you write to remind us?

D. N. (Watten, N.B.).—As a Scot, you really ought to know that if the Domestic Supply Co., of Leeds, are offering trade secrets at reduced or any other sort of prices, they are not worth a bawbee.

Miss L. W. (Bromley).—We note that the young man, giving an address in Bloomsbury Square, London, advertising for "a nice-looking domesticated girl, honourable marriage if suitable," did not meet you outside the Bromley Post Office, but then, you see, he wanted to meet you in Bloomsbury Square. A difference between you already, you see.

A. E. (London, N.W.).—Thanks; but we don't anticipate that the Stoke Poges "sportsmen" will "rush us for our paragraph." Conscience makes cowards of us all, and thus "the native hue of resolution is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought."

"A WELL WISHER."—You do not send your name and address (in confidence), and you cannot expect us to deal with your accusation unless you do.

W. A. W. (Birkenhead).—A sensible conclusion. Thomas Wilson and Co., 56, Queen Street, Cardiff, are lost-her bluffers, who yearn to put their hands in your pockets. "Won't you come into my parlour said the spider to the fly?" *Je ne pense pas*, said the fly.

P. W. B. (No address).—Your poem on "Immortality," commencing "Did nature mean that such a cursed guest, Should dwell in man and rend his troubled breast?" is hereby acknowledged. But what's the good of a poet asking such a question if he doesn't answer it?

"ON THE WATCH" (Roath).—Your sentiments concerning landlords who rack the poor are ours also; but in regard to particular cases, don't forget that even landlords cannot live on other people's troubles.

"INQUIRY" (Manchester).—We have frequently stated that when people are troubled with their eyesight they should consult a specialist—not a quack, whatever his pretensions.

"CAPTAIN" (Shoreham).—As to how Mr. Burns will shape in his new Department we must all—wait and see.

"OLD SALT" (Abercynon).—Yes, but why waste two postage stamps on such a preposterous fraud as Captain Rand?

L. E. H. (Greenwich).—You have not read the award carefully. All the winners do not get the same numbers.

Mrs. A. S. L. (Keighley).—You have not complied with our rules as to name and address. Your request that we should tell you of "any growing towns and the population in the south of England," where your husband could profitably open shop is too big an order.

F. S. (Greenock).—You are making a mountain out of an anthill. Written in England, the work is obviously written from the viewpoint of English law and custom: which, of course, isn't Scotch.

MASTER S. A. (Upper Cwntrwch).—"We have mourned for many years, A Government with common sense, To reign the country in a business way, We didn't want men, who like the cats, do spit," etc. Evidently you are a catastrophic poet; but what a queer tale!

C. H. (Winchester) tells us some funny stories with reference to a common policeman who employs his comrades to paint and paper his house, roll the garden lawn, feed the pigs, etc. Surely he cannot be a very "common policeman"?

G. H. (Southsea) says his doctor tells him he is in a very serious state of health and that he should take a trip to Cairo. G. H. has no money, and asks our advice. Why not change the doctor?

W. P. (Brighton).—If you have evidence that he is going about stating you are the writer of the anonymous letters, when you are not, that is a gross slander for which you have your remedy at law. The question for you is, Is he worth powder and shot? A solicitor would write a letter demanding that his slanders should cease.

LEGAL.

- A. W. (Wood Green).**—You cannot claim anything more than the half-pay you have received during the incapacity caused through the accident. If you are still unable to do your work your employers must continue the compensation; they are not compelled to find you light work.
- S. H. H. (Bristol).**—As discussing us always causes high words between you and the "vile-tempered, self-opinionated" first engineer, why not choose a less controversial (and necessarily less interesting) subject—such as the weather? As the first officer has since given the cantankerous one a sound thrashing and seriously injured him, we do not think you should prosecute him for punching your nose.
- K. B. (Tufnell Park).**—The case of your mother, who has been confined in an asylum for over eleven years, is only one of thousands, proving the urgent necessity of amending the Divorce laws. Why do you desire to prosecute your father for bigamy? You seem very vindictive.
- A. W. (Freetown).**—Of course, the mortgagee is entitled to call his money in and if you do not pay he can sell the property. As you cannot find anyone else to advance the money and he is willing to let it remain at an increased rate of interest, you have no alternative but to submit.
- H. H. (Ilford).**—As the firm has obtained judgment, they will no doubt apply for a judgement summons unless you make some arrangement to pay the amount by instalments. If it can be proved that you have means the Court will order you to pay, and if you do not comply you may be committed to prison for "contempt of court."
- J. B. (Norwich).**—You should explain all the circumstances to the Commissioners, because if you sell the property you will have to pay Increment Duty on the increased value (if any). If you allow it to be valued too low now you will have to pay higher duty later on.
- S. A. (Woodley).**—The document still holds good if your wife was of age when she signed it. If her father died without making a will, one-third of his personal property goes to his wife, and two-thirds equally amongst his children.
- F. H. (Cambridge).**—The marriage is not complete until the register is signed.
- M. M.**—All you can do is to place the facts before the Home Secretary, and if you inform him that the means are forthcoming to give your brother a fresh start in a new country he may, in the circumstances, order his early release.
- T. J. S. H. (Bradford).**—You must first pay the funeral and other debts, including the necessary legal expenses, out of your mother's estate, after which you should distribute the legacies in accordance with the terms of her will. If there is not sufficient to pay the legacies you must reduce them proportionately.

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE.

- A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Inquiry.**
- FARROW'S BANK.**—DOUBTFUL.—Quite safe.
- HATTON, MORRIS AND CO.**—CANNY SCOT (Paisley); ALE (Penarth); W. B. (Donnet); ANXIOUS (Northumberland); H. P. (Durham); and others.—A good speculation.
- INCOME AND INVESTMENT CORPORATION.**—J. C. (Bangor).—The circular is one of the most audacious that has come our way.—A. T. (Preston), H. C. W. (Coleraine).—We certainly cannot recommend this firm as "a reliable one to do business with."—H. S. (Ashby-de-la-Zouch).—We have frequently warned our readers against these people.
- EMPIRE SHARE EXCHANGE.**—S. S. (Widnes).—You must regard your money as lost. The prime mover in the concern was sentenced recently to fifteen months' hard labour for fraud.
- PROVINCIAL CINEMATOGRAFI THEATRES.**—LYNDITE (Ramsbottom).—The picture theatre business has been greatly overdone, and owing to the difficulty and expense of getting attractive new subjects its popularity is probably on the wane. We should advise you to get out.
- V. C.—OIL ENGINE.**—H. T. (Tunbridge Wells).—There are scores of oil engine patents knocking about, and they are not a suitable medium for the small speculator or investor.
- AFRICAN BANKING CORPORATION.**—BOYACCORD.—In spite of unsettled conditions in South Africa both the shares and deposits may be regarded as safe.
- S. ALLHOFF AND SONS.**—WANTED.—£5 of ordinary stock would be worth 16s. or 17s.
- RAILWAYS.**—F. E. O. (Blaenon Festiniog).—We should prefer London and North Western, but Central London is a perfectly safe investment.
- BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA CO.**—"E. P."—The Strand address is used simply to advertise Rhodesian produce and is a branch of the Chartered Company.
- SOUTH DURHAM STREET.**—J. C. (Bangor).—The shares give a very high return at present price and they may be regarded as a good speculative investment although trade is now on the turn.
- SHEFFIELD LOANS.**—M. F. H. (Aldershot).—Perfectly safe, and there can be no doubt the money would be repaid on giving the agreed notice.
- JUMBO GOLD MINE.**—A. M. H. (Glasgow).—The prospects appear to be hopeless, and you will never get back more than a shilling or two per share.
- I. H. BOS AND CO.**—J. C. (Liverpool).—We have frequently warned our readers against these people. It is a pity you did not consult us before parting with your money.
- SPENCER-SANTO.**—J. C. (Tooting).—All you can do is to insist on the trustees getting you full particulars of the progress of the liquidation, but if you care to go to the expense of consulting a smart solicitor you might force their hands a bit. At the same time the voluntary acceptance of the debentures instead of cash makes the position a difficult one.
- NARAYAN ASSHAT AND OIL.**—T. W. (Grangemouth).—Throw the circulars received from the Canadian Industrial Development Company into the fire, and don't be "tempted to become a shareholder."—L. B. (Nottingham).—See above.—J. W. (Norbreck).—We are afraid you must regard your money as lost.—A. S. S.—We advise you to have nothing further to do with these shares.

ECLIPSE GOLD MINING.—E. J. (Ashton-under-Lyne).—You have lost your money and worrying about it won't help you.

MID-EUROPEAN OIL.—OILCART (Ireland).—You are quite right, the shares being valueless, but we are afraid you have no claim against your brokers as you were not prejudiced in any way by non-receipt of the share certificate. You could have sold at any time after you got the purchase contract. There is frequently unavoidable delay in issuing certificates, and although it was possibly deliberate in this case you cannot hold the brokers responsible.

CONSOLIDATED GOLDFIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA.—TONGAN.—Be advised and keep your India stock. Goldfields are an extremely doubtful speculation at present price. All the financial talent in the country has been trying to make good capital depreciation "within six months"—or six years—with results that are painfully obvious. What chance do you think you have where so many have failed? Sit tight and wait.

INVESTMENTS.—H. J. (Barrow-in-Furness).—As you have no experience you had better leave the business to your bankers.

TATLAYOOD LAKE GOLD MINES.—J. K. (Barnsley).—We cannot find any trace of the present address of the company, and are afraid you must make your mind up that the money is lost. Do you know whom you bought the shares from?

SCOTTISH MARINE OIL.—C. M. (Edinburgh).—You are quite right to regard the claim under the circumstances, as it is probably bluff, but the law with regard to the payment of calls is exceedingly strict.

ROYAL LIVER FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—"LEGAL" (Stoke).—The Act of 1900 makes legal policies which were admittedly illegal because of absence of insurable interest. The Act, however, further states that the assurance must have been effected by or on account of a person who had at the time a bona-fide expectation that he would incur expenses in connection with the death or funeral of the assured. The question, therefore, that arises in your case is as to whether or not you had a bona-fide belief that you would incur expenses in connection with the death or funeral of the assured. If not, then we think you are legally entitled to claim a return of the premiums. We do not think the omission of the agent to inform you of the prior assurance on the same life would be helpful to you in any way.

IRISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—P. J. C. (Rathfriland).—It is a comparatively young company, and cannot yet have reached an assured position. There is, of course, always an element of risk associated with the upbuilding of a new Society, and much depends upon economy of administration and careful management during the early years. We have no information regarding its present financial condition, and you had better, therefore, ascertain the position from a perusal of their published Report and Statement of Accounts.

MANUFACTURERS' LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.—"NEMO."—It is a well established company, and appears to be making steady progress. The cost of conducting the business, however, is somewhat high, and it does not compare favourably with the leading British Offices. The financial position is sound, and we do not think, therefore, that your friend need be under any apprehension as regards the safety of his policy investment.

INSURANCE POLICY.—W. H. (S. Wales).—If the policy was effected prior to the Act of 1900, the absence of insurable interest does not invalidate it. The Act providing that no such policy shall be deemed to be void by reason only that the person effecting the policy had not at the time the policy was effected an insurable interest in the life of the person assured. To legalise the policy, however, it must have been effected by or on account of a person who, at the time, had a bona-fide expectation that he would incur expenses in connection with the death or funeral of the assured. Apparently you have no voice in the matter and can do nothing to prevent the continuance of the assurance.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—J. H. (Derby).—It is customary when incorrect age is given at the time the assurance was effected for the Company, before paying a claim, to reduce the assurance to an amount that would have become payable according to the correct age at entry. Now that you have ascertained the correct age you should look at their prospectus and ascertain the sum assured at that age for the premium paid. This will enable you to ascertain whether the £12 12s. received is the sum properly payable having regard to the correct age at entry, and the amount of premium paid under the respective policies.

SPORTING.

Sporting inquiries must be addressed to the Sporting Editor, 52, New Broad Street, E.C.

CALCUTTA SWEEPSTAKES.—NOMAX, JOHNER, H. McL. (Dundee), and OTHERS.—Tickets are now only issued to members of the Calcutta Turf Club.

"LONDON MAIL" DERBY SWEEP.—MRS. W. (Manchester).—Communications must be addressed to Mr. William Hammond, Wiggins, Switzerland.

JOHN BULL DERBY SWEEP.—HIRSTVANATLAW (Madras).—Yes, the Draw will take place under our supervision. Messrs. Smallman and Terry, who are conducting the Sweep, are a firm of the highest integrity.—NOMAX.—For particulars you must communicate direct with Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, Switzerland, is sufficient address.

"ENQUIRER" (Natal).—The Draw will take place on May 23rd. A *nom de guerre* may be used.—M. F. (Rugby).—You are right in assuming that, if eight tickets are disposed of, you are entitled to two bonus tickets, provided the ten counterfoils are forwarded to Messrs. Smallman and Terry at one and the same time.—"A REGULAR READER" (Haydock).—H. S. (Harrogate), and OTHERS.—Both tickets are genuine. The discrepancy to which you refer is, we understand, due to the fact that since the first issue of books of tickets, Messrs. Smallman and Terry have decided to increase the value of the first prize from £20,000 to £25,000, the total prize money being £50,000.—T. H. T. (Liverpool).—We have frequently stated that we cannot act as agents for the transmission of money in connection with any Sweepstake. We have returned your postal order, and you must apply direct to Geneva.—"ANXIETY."—No necessity for you to be. The firm of Smallman and Terry stands very high in local reputation. Only the "wrong" ones will be interfered with.

If You Want £5 a Week for Life turn to Page 25 NOW!

CITY NOTES.

(For Financial and Insurance Letter-Box, see Letter Bag pages.)

The Stock Markets.

With money pouring into the Treasury owing to the relentless energy of the tax collector, it is not altogether surprising that the Stock Exchange finds itself with practically nothing to do. The public cannot run motor-cars, music-halls, picture shows, etc., and pay taxes, all on a scale never before dreamt of, and liberally feed the Stock Exchange at the same time. That is the root of the trouble, but at present it is aggravated by politics and finance at home and abroad. As regard foreign affairs the sensational happenings in Paris have had a depressing influence, but the chief bugbear is Brazilian finance which, judged by the persistent fall in the exchange, is going from bad to worse and is exercising a very adverse effect, especially on the Paris Bourse. It is believed, however, that the powerful Rothschild interests, which are so closely bound up with Brazil, will take care that the difficulties in this direction do not degenerate into demoralisation. Anyhow it will be seen that there are plenty of reasons for investors and speculators holding their hands. Home Railways have been dull owing to poor traffics (compared with the big returns last year) and threats of labour troubles on the North Eastern and Great Eastern. American and Canadian Rails were depressed mainly for financial considerations and any attempts at a rally are checked by persistent sales from the Continent.

Salvation Army Assurance.

We notice amongst the assets of this Society, "mortgages on property within the United Kingdom, £313,400." And we beg to ask whether any, and, if so, how much of this item is represented by loans on Salvation Army "barracks"? We scarcely need point out that such a form of security would be almost worthless in the event of the "barracks" being vacated.

The Limit!

It would be hard to beat, either in matter or style, the circulars issued by the Income and Investment Corporation, of 63-64, Chancery Lane. They are printed in red and blue, and in huge type you are told to "improve your welfare; we have solved the problem on the Stock Exchange and can make you a regular and fixed weekly income in both rising and falling markets." Not only so, but if you are not satisfied you can have "your money returned." But who would not be satisfied with £5 a week from an investment of £100; "no risk whatever, safety of capital guaranteed"? Not only so, but there are quarterly bonuses in addition, the December distribution being £5 3s. 8d. on each £100. Prodigious! There must have been a law somewhere, however, for on ringing up City 6775 (two lines) we are informed by the Exchange that the telephone in question has "been given up." It is a pity that such philanthropists should not be able to keep in the closest possible touch with their clients—especially the old ones, who are doubtless eager to hear from them.

Mr. E. T. Holloway.

We note that Mr. Edward Thomas Holloway, of 5, Essex Court, Temple, E.C., barrister-at-law, who has abandoned his appeal from the judgment given against him in the action for alleged libel which he brought against the *Financial News* last year, has had a Receiving Order in bankruptcy made against him. Mr. Holloway was at one time a director of the Great Lucknow Consols Ltd., and several other ventures and has lately been chairman of the Radium-Uranium Syndicate, Limited.

The Hindustani Spectacle Syndicate, Limited.

This was the unfortunate enterprise which by its failure reduced many of its employees to poverty, a relief fund having been opened for them. We understand that certain extraordinary facts about the promotion and administration of the syndicate have been communicated to the Home Secretary, praying that something be done to bring home the responsibility for its collapse to the proper parties, but we have not heard what, if any, response has been received. The matter is certainly one which should be dealt with by the authorities.

W. J. Potter Again?

We have, on several occasions, referred to the misguided activities of one W. J. Potter, who has been running Get-Rich-Quick schemes from 26, Shaftesbury Avenue. Last April, we noted the complaint made to Mr. Justice Swinfen-Eady by Lord Tenterden, chairman of the Trust and Development Company of Home and Foreign Industries, Limited, that Potter had excluded him from the registered office of the company and had indulged in other vagaries. From a recent newspaper report, we note that Canon Barron has complained to Mr. Justice Warrington that one William John Potter managing director of the British Seagamite Company, Limited, of which the Canon is an ordinary director, intercepted him on his arrival at Paddington Station, and on his entering a taxi, touched him on the arm, proposed somebody as a director (or directors) of the company and, then and there, having constituted a "board meeting," duly carried the proposal "by his casting vote." Is our W. J. Potter of the Tenterden application the William John Potter in question? In any case, we trust that something more will be heard of the matter, as the holding of a board meeting on the step of a taxi-cab is an innovation which teems with possibilities.

George Beverley Again.

A year ago, in our issue of February 22nd, we referred to the remarks of Judge Edge at the Clerkenwell County Court on the character of the "Investors Protection Association," run by George Beverley, who was also carrying on a Bucket Shop as "Guthrie and Gunter," a bogus underwriting business as "Postlethwaite, Taylor and Knowles, Limited," and another fake—the "Incorporated Trust." "Beverley," whose real name is Isaac Isaac, recently appeared in the Bankruptcy Court but his connection with these "enterprises" does not appear to have been disclosed. He is said to have admitted the failure of his attempted promotion of the East Coast Rubber Estates, Limited, and the failure of his Johnston Mushroom Farm, Limited; but nothing was said about his mushroom firms and his sixpence-a-share agitations. Maybe we shall hear more about them at his Public Examination.

Rio Tinto Dividend.

Dealers were quite pleased with the Rio Tinto dividend announcement which is at the rate of 35s. per share, whereas the market was not going for more than 30s. For the whole year the distribution is 75s. or 75 per cent. against 90 per cent. last time and the difference in the amount to be paid out represents £280,000. The company had to face a serious strike at the same time as the average price of copper dropped from £73 to £68 5s. per ton. In well-informed quarters it is believed that the strike cost the company at least a quarter of a million. While the strike was in progress floods washed away a large quantity of concentrates which were thus irrevocably lost, the workmen refusing to help in protecting them. Moreover, several hundred loaded trucks were left exposed to the weather, were practically eaten away by corrosion, and had to be scrapped. The company is able to stand these losses, but they do not tend to enhance the value of the shares.

Poor Brakpan.

It is two or three months since we had something to say about the unsatisfactory position at the Brakpan Mines, and although the statements were vehemently challenged at the time, the report for the past year shows that they were only too well founded. About 2,250 tons less crushed ore, the yield was 3s. per ton lower, and the working expenses were 1s. 5d. per ton higher. The reduction in ore milled and the increase in cost may fairly be attributed to the labour troubles, but that might reasonably have induced the management to put through a higher grade of ore if it had been available; certainly a lower grade would not be deliberately used in the circumstances. Not only so, but it is admitted that the ore reserves have been reduced by 215,000 tons during the year, and even now we cannot be sure that the whole truth has been allowed to leak out. In any case a simple calculation will show that the shares cannot be worth their present price unless more rich ground is opened up, and recent developments do not hold out much prospect of any such luck.

No More Bad Writing if You Use a "JOHN BULL" Pen. Coupon on Page III. of Cover.

£1,562.**FOR THE BEST "BULLETS."**

5,073 PRIZES WAITING TO BE WON.

**First
Prize.****£500****First
Prize.****2nd Prize****£50****3rd Prize****£25****20 Prizes of****£2-10-0****50 Prizes of****£1 EACH.****500 PRIZES OF 5s.****AND****2,500 PRIZES OF 2/6****2,000 OTHER HANDSOME PRIZES.**

MY ONLY LOVE
ARMED REHSTARGE
MONEY FLIE)
AFTER MANY DRINKS
STAGE FRIGHT
FIRST BLOW
WITHOUT A SOLUTION
GROWING FAT

SPRING SALES
DOING THE LANDLADY
NEEDS PUSH
LAST APPEARANCE
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS
ENDING MATTERS
ANGRY WIFE
ON THE ROOF

MAIDEN AUNT
MARKET CHANGES
OUTSTRIPPING HER RIVALS
GRUISHING REPLY
BAD FINISH
WHAT A GAME
FULL SIZE
HOLDING THE COALES

FEEDING BOTTLE
ON SUNDAY
THE RED LIGHT
BACK SEATS
TWIN SISTERS
ROADS TO LET
BLUNT REFUSAL
KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

STANDING FAST
BETTER DAYS
TRUST THE PEOPLE
CLEARING OUT
THE WINNING STROKE
A VEXED PROBLEM
SECOND BEST
DIRECTING TRAFFIC

3,073**CASH PRIZES
THIS WEEK.****HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.**

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having sense bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST AND LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "SPRING SALES," and take the letters "A" and "S," using the word "the" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet "ATTRACT THE LADIES." From the example "ANGRY WIFE" the Bullet "GENERALLY AVOIDED" can be formed.

Again, if you choose the example "BLUNT REFUSAL," using the letter "T" as initial for both the first and last word, you can make the Bullet "TOPPER COVERED TEA."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition, are in no way debarred from winning again.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see the "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:-

Closing date, Wednesday, April 1st.

Example.....

Bullet.....

Example.....

Bullet.....

(78) P.O. No.....

Signed.....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 43.

Address.....

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL" dated April 4th.

Closing date, Wednesday, April 1st.

Example.....

Bullet.....

Example.....

Bullet.....

(78) P.O. No.....

Signed.....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 43.

Address.....

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order or £/- Must be sent.
ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 78," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.
Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

The Result of this Competition will appear in our issue dated April 18th.
For Rules, etc., see opposite page.

Complete List of all cash and other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Racing Notes.

Last week we selected

BRANCEPSTE

to win the Lincolnshire. He then stood at 33 to 1, and subsequently "forties" could be obtained. Now he is a hot favourite, so those that took the tip must be on velvet. He will undoubtedly start favourite and at a short price. Perhaps CIGAR and BONBON ROSE are the two with the next best chances.

For the National, the short stoppage in his work should not do

LUTTEUR III.

much harm, and he looks like the winner. JACOBUS and COVERTCOAT are the next best things, and bar accident, the three named should all be placed.

For the wind-up at Lincoln to-day (Wednesday) CLIFTON HILL,* in the Doddington Plate, must provide the week's best thing. DUSSA is expected to win the Lincoln Plate, and AMOY should capture the Kesteven Plate.

To-morrow (Thursday), when what promises to be a very successful Liverpool meeting commences, the best things are HORNET'S BEAUTY for the Hylton Handicap, CYLLENE MORE for the Liverpool Spring Cup, and BRAKE-SPEAR for the Union Jack Stakes. On National day (Friday) SCOTCH DUKE may win the Bridgeman Stakes, TRINITY SQUARE the Bickerstaffs Stakes, and SEATON DELAVAL the Thursby Handicap. On the concluding day the King may win the Stanley Stakes with GREY LINNET. The Cup Course Selling Handicap should go to CLIFTON HILL, even though he is previously out at Lincoln. MOSCATO can win the Liverpool Hurdle and CARRIGRUE the Champion Steeplechase.

"DUGGIE'S DOUBLES."

That enterprising turf accountant, Mr. Douglas Stuart, of 102-4, New Oxford Street, London, W.C., has furnished us with a list of some of the principal items standing in his "Double Event" book on the Lincoln and National. Amongst the most interesting we observe bets of £31,200 to £50, Jarnac II and Trianon II and £30,000 to £100 Jarnac II and Lutteur III. Judging by the magnitude of the other transactions in the list we have received "Duggie" will be lucky to "get out alive." In any event, however, we do not suppose he will worry.

Football Fancies.

By McW.

I think we have all got a grievance against our wretched Clerk of the Weather. On two successive Saturdays he has shown himself a miserable "spoil-sport." Incidentally he upset what promised to be our most interesting competition of the season. I certainly counted on six away teams winning. That number is the average, taking the season through. The terrible rains, however, made our football grounds mere quagmires, and the visiting teams were severely handicapped by the conditions. Still, although the £500 cannot be won, there remains that nice little Consolation Prize of £200. Somebody must win it, and it will do to buy the Hot-Cross Buns for some fortunate individual.

I would point out that in the case of the Semi-Final Ties, the Clubs named first upon our coupon are to be regarded as the "Home" teams. Aston Villa should again tread the charmed path to the Palace. As for Burnley, you may recollect that some weeks back I tipped them for the Cup. They will not have a picnic match with Sheffield United. In fact the teams may have to meet twice, but Burnley should qualify to meet the Villa.

I thank my very many Scottish readers for their suggestion that I should include some Scottish matches in our Football Competitions. Their arguments in favour of the idea are unassailable. I would point out, however, that the football season is so far advanced that I hardly think it worth while to make the alteration now. Next season I must see what can be done.

Our Football Competition Department is open to visitors. Don't Knock. Just walk straight in and ask for me. If my provincial readers, who are coming to London for the Final, purpose visiting me, I would ask them to let me know as soon as possible so that I may make the necessary arrangements for receiving them. I expect so many that I shall have to tackle them in batches because, of course, we have not unlimited accommodation. In fact, if parties of friends intend paying us a call I should like early notice so that I may arrange a time-table to suit everybody if possible. The Friday callers will see more of our work than will they who leave their visit till the Saturday morning. Hope to hear from you.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, March 28th, 1914.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

Matches played on ground of first-named Team.	Last Season's Result.	JOHN BULL	The O.P.R.	News of The World	Weekly Dispatch	Sunday Chronicle	Lloyd's News.	Sporting Gossip	Competitor's Journal
F.A. CUP.—S. MI-FINALS.									
Aston Villa v. Liverpool	—	Aston Villa	Aston V.	Aston V.	Aston V.	Aston V.	Aston V.	Aston V.	Aston V.
Burnley v. Sheffield United	—	Burnley	Burnley	Burnley	Burnley	Burnley	Burnley	Burnley	Burnley
Bolton Wanderers v. Bradford C.	Bolton won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Chelsea v. Manchester C.	Chelsea won	Home	Home	Away	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
Liverpool v. Tottenham Hotspur	Tottenham won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Oldham Athletic v. Derby County	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Sheffield Wed. v. Blackburn R.	Sheffield W. won	Away	Away	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Home	Draw
West Bromwich A. v. Sunderland	West Brom won	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw
Birmingham v. Westwich Arsenal	No match	Away	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Away
Bradford v. Barnsley	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Bristol City v. Notts Forest	Notts F. won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Clapton Orient v. Lincoln City	Lincoln City won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Glossop v. Netherfield Town	Glossop won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Leicester F. v. Wolverhampton W.	Wolverhampton won	Away	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Draw
Grimsby Town v. Fulham	Grimsby won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home
Leeds City v. Blackpool	Blackpool won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Notts County v. Hull City	No match	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
Sheepscote v. Weymouth	Bury won	Draw	Draw	Away	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
Southern United v. Bristol Rovers	No match	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home
Northampton v. Northey Town	Northampton won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Willingham v. West Ham United	Draw	Draw	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	Home	Home	Home
Horwich City v. Plymouth A.	Plymouth A. won	Home	Away	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Away
Watford v. Southampton	Watford won	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Coventry City v. Reading	Coventry C. won	Home	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home
Crystal Palace v. Queen's Park R.	Queen's P. won	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Brighton and Hove v. Swindon Y.	Brighton won	Draw	Draw	Home	Draw	Away	Home	Away	Away
Portsmouth v. Cardiff City	No match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Millwall v. Exeter C.	Millwall won	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.—SECOND LEAGUE.—FIRST LEAGUE.

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"Gale's Special"

The "SPECIAL" that
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"It is many years since GALE'S SPECIAL first saw the light of day, and it is pleasing to see that the old standards and old reputation as a sound adviser are not only maintained but going stronger than ever. Few tips are given but that these are well on the mark can be seen by reference to its long list of successes during the past season."—*The Jockey, November 22nd, 1913.*

Next Monday's issue of "GALE'S SPECIAL," published at 3d. 6d. will be sent post free in plain sealed envelope upon receipt of 1s. P.O. or Stamp to all readers of "JOHN BULL" enclosing this paragraph.

Racing speculations to-day are similar to Stock Exchange speculations, in that they do not associate themselves with the same risk as formerly, and to the sportsman who speculates judiciously the opportunity presents itself with the opening of the Flat-Racing Season whereby he may limit his losses with a prospect of unlimited profits.

Sound judgment and reliable information are the most important factors of success in Flat speculation, and the reputation we maintained last year for definite and reliable intelligence combined with straightforward and honourable business transactions with all our subscribers should be a sufficient guarantee that speculators may rely fearlessly upon the information we send to them through the medium of

Gale's Primus Wire

The Most Successful Service Ever Inaugurated.

It is impossible to print a full list of selections in the space we have at our disposal, but during the month of February all subscribers to this service received:-

Wednesday, February 4th.-

WHITING, 10 to 1 agt., Won.

Tuesday, February 10th.-

ADERNA, 5 to 1 agt., Won.

Wednesday, February 18th.-

SCHWARMER, 6 to 1 agt., Won.

Thursday, February 26th.-

FINCHALE, 4 to 1 agt., Won.

The charge for this Special Primus Wire is TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS PER MESSAGE. In no circumstances whatever is more than one selection ever mentioned on this message. It amounts to this, ONE SELECTION ONLY—THE BEST SELECTION THAT MONEY, BRAINS AND INFLUENCE CAN PROCURE.

The next selection on this GALE'S PRIMUS WIRE will be sent from Liverpool, on Saturday, March 28th and

As a Special Offer to JOHN BULL readers we will send this Special Wire upon receipt of £10, instead of the usual charge of £25.

and UNLESS THE SELECTION SENT OUT IS SUCCESSFUL, AND AT REASONABLE ODDS, WE GUARANTEE TO SEND OUR NEXT TATTERSALL'S RING WIRE ENTIRELY FREE OF CHARGE. On the other hand should the selection win at the odds of not less than 10 to 1, subscribers will of course forward the

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Buildings, Birmingham

Address: "WINNERS, Birmingham."

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Following are names of a few Winners of Totalisator Prizes.

£1,000 won by E. H. Hann, Esq., 77a, Landon Road, Acton, London, W.
£1,001 " " E. W. Eades, Esq., 1, Poppleton Street, Graysand.
£1,122 " " A. Troughton, Esq., 12, Central Market, London, E.C.
£201 " " A. E. de Souza, Esq., 44, Colby Road, Gipsy Hill, London, S.E.
£255 2s. " " Lord Auckland, The Burrow, Howard Road, Bournemouth.
£1,012 " " Mrs. Burgess, 49, Ridgmount Garden, London, W.
£120 10s. " " John Cotton, Esq., Gold Hotel, Crail, Scotland.
£1,002 " " Mrs. Miller, Littlewick Green, Maidenhead.
£1,000 " " Miss W. M. Everett, 7, Admiralty Road, Portsmouth.
(Names published by permission.)

OVER £40,000 HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED.

The following papers have written complimentary opinions about The Totalisator, Lucerne, Switzerland:—Standard, Irish Times, Daily Express, Irish Independent, Morning Advertiser, Globe, Winning Post, John Bull, Sporting Life, Pall Mall Gazette, Bradford Daily Telegraph, London Mail, etc.

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"John Bull" says:—Messrs. H. Hamilton & Co. are thoroughly reliable.

Selected matches for March 28th, 1914.

Single teams or any combination may be backed.

Sheffield W. v. Blackburn R.	Brighton & H. v. Swindon T.
W. Bromwich v. S'derland.	Coventry C. v. Reading
Birmingham v. Woolwich A.	Gillingham v. W. Ham U.
Leicester F. v. W'iston W.	Norwich C. v. Plymouth A.
Stockport C. v. Bury	Dumbarton v. 3rd Lanark.

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JOHN BULL PEN COUPON. Value 1d.

By sending this Coupon with P.O. 2/6 and loose 1d. stamp for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a John Bull Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen. Additional Coupons up to 12 from "John Bull" or "Mary Bull," any dates, may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 1d. off the price. You may send 12 Coupons, and P.O. for 1/6 only and loose 1d. stamp for postage. Address Pen Dept. "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C. Mar. 28th, 1914.
N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

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is taken by the wisest men.

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